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A MONTHLY BULLETIN RECORDING THE MADRAS WAR EFFORT

VICTORY

VOL. II—No. 10

JUNE 1943

THE FOOD PROBLEM

I do not want people to go into this question of rationing as into a religious dogma ; there is no question of a dogma about rationing at all. It is a matter purely of expediency, like so many other things in war time. If the Government feel that rationing should be brought in, with all facts and figures in their knowledge, rationing would be brought in. But rationing would not cure all the evils in the country at present. I say this in all sincerity and truth that we have got an absolutely open and active mind on the question of rationing. If we think it must be done, it will be done without any delay at all. But, I do not want this question of rationing to develop into a minor political crisis in this presidency. I also want to assure the people that we have got no hostility for the idea of rationing. All we want is to get food to the people in the best possible way ; if it can be done better by rationing than by other means, rationing will be brought in.

—His Excellency Sir ARTHUR HOPE, Governor of Madras, addressing a public meeting on Tunisia Day on 21st May 1943.

WE MUST NOT RELAX

We have achieved a very great victory and our final victory in this war is certain. But we must not relax or sink into a coma of self-satisfaction, or else, the fruits of victory will be snatched from us. We have before us much labour, strife and sorrow before that final victory arrives. But the harder we work, and the more we get together, forgetting our differences, the sooner will it come. The ever growing might of the Allies is invincible and we can with complete certainty look forward to the utter defeat and destruction of the greatest menace the world has ever known.

—His Excellency Sir ARTHUR HOPE, in the course of a broadcast on Tunisia Day, 21st May 1943.

NOTICE

THE Director of War Publicity will be glad to receive photographs relating to war work in the City and in the mofussil districts for publication in the next number of VICTORY. Photographs intended for publication should reach him before July 20, 1943.

VICTORY

A Review of the Madras War Effort for May 1943

VOL. II — JUNE 1943 — No. 10

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Madras Governor's War Fund

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements as on 31st May 1943

Receipts.

From districts as under (including amounts previously collected for His Excellency the Governor's War Charities Appeal Fund)—

	RS.	A.	P.
Coimbatore	20,04,375	9	8
West Godavari	17,27,216	4	4
Madras	15,91,908	7	8
East Godavari	14,62,469	12	8
Kistna	12,58,420	1	0
Ramnad	12,44,160	13	5
Tanjore	12,19,639	10	10
Guntur	11,84,253	14	3
Vizagapatam	11,67,824	13	8
Madura	11,16,768	14	7
Tinnevelly	11,12,463	1	9
Kurnool	8,99,932	14	1
Salem	8,92,260	15	9
North Arcot	8,76,675	11	2
Nellore	8,45,585	11	10
Malabar	7,70,919	4	7
Chingleput	7,63,496	8	11
Trichinopoly	7,25,258	9	11
South Kanara	7,23,366	14	0
South Arcot	4,74,923	8	10
Nilgiris	4,59,120	13	2
Cuddapah	4,43,576	14	9
Anantapur	4,31,628	11	2
Bellary	4,04,049	5	4
Chittoor	3,93,571	11	2
Travancore	75,024	0	7
Bangalore-Mysore-Coorg	23,503	15	9
	2,42,92,397	2	10

Disbursements.

	RS.	A.	P.
By His Excellency the Governor's War Charities Appeal Fund	2,52,060	13	6
By the Madras Governor's War Fund :—			
To Air Ministry, London, for cost of aircraft for Madras Squadron	1,72,00,000	0	0
To specific charities and to Joint War Charities Committee in accordance with the wishes of donors	18,25,351	15	2
To Indian Air Force	15,50,000	0	0
To Government of India (Defence Department) for purchase of Armoured Carriers	4,10,000	0	0
To Madras Flying Club on account of scholarships, trainer, aircraft, parachutes and other equipment and for the training of flying instructors, etc.	3,08,971	3	1

Disbursements—cont.

	RS.	A.	P.
To His Excellency the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund, etc., for Indian Defence Purposes ear-marked in accordance with the wishes of donors	13,060	3	6
To Relief of Evacuees	1,00,244	6	5
To Salvation Army for the entertainment of and supply of meals to troops	3,000	0	0
To purchase of motor boat, station wagon, etc., from amounts ear-marked for M.&S.M. Railway Rayapuram District Armoured Car Fund	8,600	0	0
To Joint War Charities Committee on account of "Amenities for Troops" ear-marked in accordance with the wishes of donors	4,70,536	10	3
Total disbursements.	2,21,41,825	3	11
Balance as on 31st May.	21,50,571	14	11
	2,42,92,397	2	10

MADRAS PROVINCIAL DEFENCE LOANS COMMITTEE.

Madras Presidency: Subscriptions to Defence Loans in May 1943.

	RS.	RS.
Total investments up to 1st May 1943		7,16,70,122
During the period 1st May to 29th May 1943—		
3 per cent Third Defence Loan (1951-54)	32,46,400	
Defence Savings Certificates	1,80,600	
		34,27,000
Amount deposited in the Post Office Defence Savings Bank during the month of April 1943.		1,32,576
Total		7,52,29,698

Amenities for Troops Fund

BELLARY.—Systematic attempts are made under the guidance of the Collector and the Revenue Divisional Officers, Bellary, Adoni and Hospet, to raise funds for Amenities for Troops Fund by approaching the public for individual donations. Apart from the amounts donated but not yet realized, the amount collected in Hospet taluk, and remitted into the sub-treasury in the month of May was Rs. 8,338, of which the Merchants' Association, Hospet, alone contributed Rs. 4,000.

CUDDAPAH.—A sum of Rs. 19,405-10-0 was collected towards the Amenities for Troops Fund. There were two benefit performances one at Rajampet and the other at Proddatur, on May 15 and 29, respectively, in aid of the Fund. A sum of Rs. 4,300 and another sum of Rs. 10,460 were realized at Rajampet and Proddatur, respectively, by sale of tickets and individual donations.

KURNOOL.—A sum of Rs. 6,334-5-2 was collected and credited to His Excellency the Governor's War Fund, out of which, a sum of Rs. 1,956-2-9 was ear-marked for Amenities for Troops Fund. During the month, the drama "Madhuseva" was enacted by the Markapur Amateurs on May 8 at Kurnool and on May 10 at Nandyal.

MADURA.—The following sums were contributed for the Fund: By the Manager, Madura Mills, Rs. 5,000. The Tahsildar of Tirumangalam organized a benefit show and realized Rs. 150. The Tahsildar, Nilacottai, remitted the sum of Rs. 4,136-6-9 (as second instalment) realized from a music performance held last month. The total collection at the entertainment was Rs. 10,018-6-9.

The War Committee, Palni taluk, staged a drama and realized Rs. 3,000. The War Committee, Dindigul, organized a dance performance. It is expected that about Rs. 7,000 will be realized. Mr. Muthuveerappa Pillai of Karungalakudi presented a purse of Rs. 500 voluntarily when the Lady Lecturer, Mrs. A. S. D. Charles, addressed a meeting there. The Tahsildar, Periyakulam, remitted the sum of Rs. 3,500 realized from an entertainment.

RAMNAD.—During the month, the Tahsildar, Sivaganga, conducted a benefit performance and realized a sum of Rs. 2,581 for the Amenities for Troops Fund.

Other Activities

COIMBATORE.—The sum of Rs. 1,500 was realized in Coimbatore Division for the purchase of Defence Loans. Defence Savings Certificates were sold for Rs. 7,320 in Coimbatore and in Gobichettipalaiyam Divisions.

CUDDAPAH.—Boxing and wrestling matches with sword play and stick display were held on May 21 on the police parade grounds. A drama entitled "Veerakankanam" on the aims and objects of the National War Front was enacted on May 21 in the Police Parade Grounds which was much appreciated.

KURNOOL.—The Collector sold Defence Savings Stamps to the value of Rs. 100. Other officers also sold stamps to their subordinates and to the public. The movement is becoming increasingly popular. Taluk Defence Loans Committees are under formation and it is hoped that these Committees will be able to tackle well-to-do businessmen and induce them to invest their spare funds in Defence Bonds.

NILGIRIS.—A sale of work was held in St. Mary's Convent, Kotagiri, in aid of the Red Cross. The school girls enacted a drama.

His Excellency the Governor's Tour

During the first half of May, His Excellency presided over two public meetings in the Nilgiris, one held in the Assembly Rooms at Ootacamund on May 4 and the other at Gudalur on May 9. In his address at the Ootacamund meeting, His Excellency reviewed the war situation and thanked the people of the district for their magnificent contributions to the War Fund and for their generosity in extending hospitality to sick, wounded and convalescent members of the Armed Forces. Touching on the food problem, His Excellency assured his audience that everything possible was being done to ease the situation and appealed for the co-operation of the public against hoarding.

At Gudalur, His Excellency again thanked the people for their creditable war effort and for a purse for the War Fund presented at the meeting. He then appealed to the people, especially to those in the interior, to co-operate with the Government in all measures for the proper and equitable distribution of food-grains and other necessities of life, and condemned hoarding. Referring to the victory in Tunisia, His Excellency said that it was the fore-runner of other victories.

His Excellency presided over the celebration of Tunisia Day and the first anniversary of the National War Front organization in Madras City on May 21. In the morning His Excellency took the salute at a March Past of units of the Fighting Forces, Civil Defence Services and Labour Detachments on the Island Grounds and, in the afternoon, at the Senate House, he addressed a largely-attended public meeting. In the course of his address, His Excellency said that the large gathering that afternoon was symbolic of the people's determination to work together to achieve victory. Recalling the dark days of 1940 through which Great Britain passed, His Excellency paid a warm tribute to Mr. Churchill whose indomitable will and words of encouragement were an inspiration not only to Great Britain but to the whole civilized world. His Excellency then referred to the part played by the National War Front organization and congratulated those who had contributed to make the movement the success it has proved to be. His Excellency also dwelt on the food problem, assuring his audience of the efforts which were being made by the Government to tide over the present difficult situation. In conclusion, His Excellency warned the people against an attitude of complacency and averred that until Germany and Japan were defeated there could be no peace. The speech was relayed by loud speakers to a large concourse of people who had assembled outside the meeting hall. On the same day, His Excellency also broadcast a message to the people of the Presidency from All-India Radio, Madras, when he reviewed the war situation, dwelt on the significance of the Tunisian Victory, and paid a glowing tribute to the glorious part played by Indian Troops in the North African campaign.

En route to Ootacamund, His Excellency camped on May 22 and 23 at Coimbatore from where he visited the training camp of the Madras Regiment, inspected the men at work and, at the request of the Commanding Officer, addressed the Officers and Non-commissioned Officers. His Excellency also motored to Palghat where he addressed a public meeting and granted interviews. At Coimbatore itself His Excellency granted interviews to local and non-officials, inspected barracks and the British Evacuee Camp, and visited the Toc H Canteen and a bus station where war technicians are undergoing training. At the Coronation Park, Coimbatore, on May 22, His Excellency addressed a public meeting following a March Past of units of the fighting and civil defence forces at which His Excellency took the salute. In his speech His Excellency referred to the victory in North Africa and the determination of the United Nations to defeat the Axis Forces and establish peace in the world. Sums of Rs. 1,65,429 from the people of Coimbatore and Rs. 70,945 from the people of Pollachi, for the War Fund, were presented to His Excellency at the public meeting.

At Palghat, on May 23, His Excellency addressed a largely attended public meeting at which purses totalling half a lakh of rupees were presented to him by individuals and on behalf of the public at Palghat. Addressing the meeting, His Excellency expressed gratitude for the magnificent contributions to the War Fund, and explained the significance of the Tunisian victory and what it meant to the Allies.

While at Coimbatore, His Excellency inaugurated the Coimbatore Rotary Club.

On May 30, His Excellency and the Hon'ble Lady Hope visited Kotagiri where His Excellency received purses totalling Rs. 7,250 and addressed a public meeting. In the course of his speech His Excellency compared the present war situation to the situation a year ago when he last spoke to the people of Kotagiri. Referring to the food position His Excellency was able to announce that 2,400 tons of rice had been purchased for the Nilgiris and would be distributed shortly. His Excellency also assured the meeting that the food situation was the primary concern of himsef and his Government and he deprecated a tendency towards destructive criticism which was appearing in certain sections of the Press; at the same time His Excellency added that any constructive criticism would be welcome. After the meeting there was an informal lunch party at the Kotagiri Club, where His Excellency met the leading war-workers.

National War Front Activities

Propaganda Meetings

MADRAS CITY.—The total number of meetings held in the city of Madras during May was 105. Street propaganda meetings 40; meetings held in connexion with the "Grow More Food" campaign 62; meetings held in the Ordnance Clothing Factory 3. Of these, the City Organizer addressed nearly 30 meetings.

The District Lecturer, Mr. K. Kalyanasundaram, addressed nearly 40 meetings. He helped the City Organizer in the arrangements to be made for the celebration of Tunisia Day and the First Anniversary of National War Front. He also helped in the vigorous campaign in connection with "Grow More Food."

The Honorary Organizer for Tannery Workers, Mr. A. M. Arokiaswami Pillai, toured Chingleput district during May and conducted 18 propaganda meetings. These meetings were well attended and good propaganda work was done.

The Honorary Organizer for fishermen, Mr. C. Appiah Chetti, also made a short tour of the Kuppams along the coast of Chingleput district, and held meetings. The meetings were mostly by way of preliminary work and intended to pave the way for more intensive propaganda which he was planning to carry out with the help of Mr. Kuppuswami, the Honorary Lecturer for the Fisherman Community.

The pamphlets "War-in-Pictures" (series 24), "When we say 'good-bye' to Black-outs," "Hindustan Amara," etc., were distributed in the City. The posters "Reward —Information of Enemy Warships Mines and Minelaying," "Earn while you Learn," "Friend and Foe" were displayed in all prominent places in the City.

The most important function held in May was the celebration of Tunisia Day and the First Anniversary of the National War Front. This celebration was first fixed for May 15—but had to be postponed to May 21 on account of inclemency of weather. A magnificent and imposing parade of the Army, Air, Navy and Land forces accompanied by Labour Units was held in the morning of May 21 and His Excellency the Governor of Madras took the salute. It was an inspiring and solemn ceremony and the crowd that gathered on the Gymkhana ground and all along the route was immense. In the evening, there were *tamasha* and a public meeting at the Senate Hall and His Excellency the Governor delivered an address. There was a record gathering, a gathering such as was never witnessed in Madras before. Over a lakh of people witnessed the *tamasha* and heard the stirring speech of His Excellency.

A vigorous "Grow More Food" campaign was carried out right through in the month. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday forenoons were set apart for this work. Vegetables such as brinjals, lady's fingers, pumpkins, greens, long-greens, raddish, etc., grown in the gardens of Government House were taken in the propaganda van and sold to the poor people. [A report appears under the heading "Grow More Food" elsewhere in this issue.] Before the sale commenced, talks were given on why more food should be grown and it was explained to the people that if every household made use of whatever little piece of land it had at its disposal, much of the scarcity of foodstuffs would vanish. These vegetables were sold at concession rates to the poor people.

The two firewood depots opened under the auspices of the National War Front have been doing very good work and have proved themselves a real boon to the poor people. Special care has been devoted to distribute to the poor firewood in small quantities, though this necessarily entails a lot of trouble to the staff. These depots are being run on an experimental basis and it is not possible as yet to state whether it is a profitable or losing concern.

Special propaganda meetings were held on Wednesdays and Fridays for the workers of the Ordnance Clothing Factory as they have expressed appreciation of our meetings and have specially requested us to continue the same.

ANANTAPUR.—Tunisia Day was celebrated in all taluk headquarters and in all important villages all over the district. Besides meetings, sports and other entertainments, thousands of poor people were fed and sweets were distributed to school children. Prayers were offered in mosques, churches and temples.

The District Organizer toured 15 days, visited 31 villages, addressed 26 meetings and inspected 26 Reading Circles. The District Collector inspected two Reading Circles. The Provincial Organizer has allotted one propaganda van exclusively for the use of this district. It is hoped that with the help of this van, greater propaganda work will be carried on in all the villages in the district. War films were exhibited in the cinema theatres at Anantapur and Hindupur.

BELLARY.—Apart from the usual meetings held by the staff of the National War Front, special public meetings were held at all taluk headquarters in connexion with the celebration of Tunisia Day. The senior-most officer of the station presided over the meetings, and addresses were delivered explaining the significance of the Day. At Bellary, the Collector presided, and among those who spoke were Rao Bahadur T. Raghava (in Telugu), Rao Bahadur Y. Mahabaleswarappa (in Kannada) and Janab M. A. Basith (in Urdu). The Deputy Superintendent of Police, Hospet, and the Revenue Divisional Officer, Adoni, presided over the meetings held in their respective headquarters and the Tahsildars presided over the meetings held in their headquarter towns.

There was a car festival at Rayadrug in the last week of this month. Though the van could not be taken to the place, owing to floods, propaganda was carried on by two propagandists, the ballad-master and one voluntary speaker.

Seven meetings were held by the District Organizer, four by the District Lecturer, 26 by the Additional Lecturer for Scheduled Classes, five by the Kannada Lecturer and eight by the Honorary Divisional organizers. The Taluk Propagandists held short talks in every village they visited. From May 6 onwards, there were marriages in all big villages, which were taken advantage of by the Taluk Propagandists and the ballad-master. The party that assembled in the marriage pandal was entertained with music and edified with talks on war subjects. War literature was distributed freely on such occasions.

The six War Publicity houses established at Bellary, Siruguppa, Hospet, Alur, Adoni and Yemmiganur are functioning satisfactorily. All of them are supplied with the latest war literature.

CHINGLEPUT.—Propaganda meetings were held in the district by the members of the Divisional War Committee in close co-operation with the National War Front staff. All these meetings were widely advertised and largely attended. Mr. G. Krishnamurthy, J.P., addressed his 127th public meeting at Aminjikarai on May 26, Posters were displayed and lantern slides and films were exhibited.

The District Organizer and the Tahsildars made elaborate arrangements for the celebration of Tunisia Day and the First Anniversary of the National War Front. Sir Hugh Hood, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., Adviser to His Excellency the Governor, presided over the celebrations at Poonamallee. The District Collector presided over the celebrations at Saidapet. The Day was an unqualified success.

The District Organizer gave talks on the food problem and the use of dry grains as the main diet. The District Lecturer visited 17 villages and delivered 14 lectures. He inspected 11 Reading Circles. The Honorary Divisional Organizers turned out good work during the month. The work of the Taluk Propagandists continued to be satisfactory.

Tunisia Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm at Ponneri. Special poojas were performed. Mr. R. Subramanya Nadar, President, Panchayat Board, and Honorary Divisional Organizer, National War Front, conducted a festival on a grand scale. Poor people were fed. Sweets were distributed to school children. A procession also was taken out and a meeting held under the presidentship of the Deputy Superintendent of Police, St. Thomas' Mount. The British troops stationed at Sholavaram attended the meeting. War songs were sung by school children at the meeting. The Taluk Propagandist and other speakers spoke on "The North African Victory."

CHITTOOR.—The District Organizer visited 15 places in the month and addressed meetings. The District Lecturer visited 22 villages and addressed meetings which were largely attended by ryots, merchants and others. The Lady Lecturer toured in Palmaner, Venkatagirikota and Vayalpad taluks and addressed women folk. She held personal talks with women and urged them to send up their men-folk to join the armed forces. The Scheduled Class Lecturer toured in Tiruttani, Chittoor, Palmaner, Punganur and Madanapalle taluks and addressed public meetings at important centres. The Honorary Divisional Organizers and Taluk Propagandists addressed meetings at various centres within their jurisdiction. The ballad-master attended 24 meetings and sang war ballads and also songs on "Grow More Food." He taught war ballads to school teachers and children. War propaganda literature was distributed to the Secretaries of Reading Circles and the local officers. War films and slides were screened in cinema halls.

Tunisia Day and the anniversary of National War Front was celebrated all over the district with great eclat with the co-operation of officials of all departments and the staff of the National War Front. Public meetings, processions, police parades, sports, decorations of office buildings and poor feeding on a large scale wre held in all headquarter stations of each taluk and important villages. The public meeting at Chittoor was presided over by the District Collector. Dr. C. R. Reddi, Regional Leader, National War Front, Andhra Desa, and Raja P. Venkataranga Nayanimvaru of Kalahasti addressed the gathering. Special poems composed for the occasion were sung in English, Telugu, Tamil and Urdu languages.

COIMBATORE.—Tunisia Day and the First Anniversary of the National War Front were celebrated in all the taluk and firka headquarters. His Excellency the Governor of Madras visited Coimbatore on May 22, and a public meeting was arranged in the Coronation Park. The Sub-Collector, Pollachi, presented a purse of Rs. 70,945 and

the Revenue Divisional Officer, Coimbatore, presented a purse of Rs. 1,65,429 to His Excellency. His Excellency gave an impressive speech on the present war situation and the ultimate victory of the United Nations.

CUDDAPAH.—A meeting of the Propaganda Sub-Committee was held at Suddamalla of Rayachoti taluk. War posters, pamphlets and leaflets were distributed throughout the district. War films were screened. The District Organizer and other members of the National War Front held a number of well-attended public meetings. The Reading Circles and National War Front Committees were inspected by the members of the National War Front and the touring officers. The propaganda van toured the district.

Tunisia Day and the National War Front Anniversary were celebrated throughout the district with great enthusiasm. All Government buildings were gaily decorated with flags and festoons, the place of prominence being given to the Union Jack. Prayers were offered in temples, mosques and churches. The poor were fed in all taluk headquarters. Big processions were taken out.

EAST GODAVARI.—The new Propaganda Van MSC. 7713 allotted to this district by the Provincial Organizer started work from the beginning of this month. The District Organizer toured the taluks of Cocanada through Ramachandrapuram and presided over several public meetings. The District Lecturer, the Honorary Taluk and Divisional Organizers conducted a number of meetings. All the Taluk Propagandists turned out good work. Tunisia Day was celebrated in all the taluk headquarters, also, the anniversary of the National War Front. The celebration at Cocanada was attended by the troops who added colour and significance to the occasion. Prayers were offered in all temples, mosques and churches. Church bells were rung. A foot-ball match was arranged between the Army and the Reserve Police and the A.R.P. personnel and the winners were presented with medals. Thousands of poor people were fed in every centre and also in the choultries run by the District Board. School children were given sweets. Processions of Reserve Police, A.R.P. personnel and the R.A.F. were taken out. A salute was taken by the Collector at Cocanada. Public meetings were held in all these places where reports of National War Front activities were read by the District Organizer and other officers in their respective places.

Tunisia Day and the First Anniversary of the National War Front was celebrated at Rajahmundry with great eclat. Prayers were offered in temples, mosques and churches. About 2,000 people were fed. A procession with music was taken out. A public meeting was held under the presidentship of Mr. C. Bhaskara Reddi, Sub-Judge, Rajahmundry. Mr. J. V. Subba Rao, Divisional Organizer, National War Front, presented a report. Speeches were made by Mr. R. Subba Rao, Advocate, and Mr. K. Someswara Rao, Public Prosecutor, Mr. J. V. Subba Rao, Divisional Organizer, and Mr. Lal Mohamed. There was a *Barata Natya* performance and instrumental music.

GUNTUR.—During the month, a Refresher Course for the Propaganda staff of the districts of Guntur, Kistna and West Godavari was conducted at Bapatla, for one week, under the direction of the District Organizer, Guntur. An instructive course of training was given to the staff with the co-operation of the National War Front Officers of the three districts. The Refresher Course week was also used as a propaganda campaign in which eleven mass meetings were held in 9 different villages in and around Bapatla, which were attended by audiences ranging from 2,000 to 5,000. Several prominent local speakers also co-operated. An exhibition of sword play, stick play, fencing, etc., was held. Processions were taken out at Bapatla and at Ponnur on several days.

Tunisia Day was celebrated all over the district with great enthusiasm under the leadership of the Collector and the Revenue officials, with the co-operation of other departments and the National War Front staff in particular. The propagandists turned out good work during the month. Grow More Food campaign was carried on in the Narasaraopet Revenue Division.

KISTNA.—The District Organizer toured 20 days this month and addressed nine meetings and held talks in five villages. He visited six Reading Circles. The meetings were attended by over 15,000 people. The District Lecturer toured 27 days and visited 42 villages and inspected 19 Reading Circles. He delivered speeches at 25 meetings. The meetings were attended by not less than 35,000 persons. Honorary speakers, Divisional and Taluk Organizers, Lady Lecturers and the Special Lecturer for backward areas, held more than 97 meetings. The staff of the National War Front addressed 87 village gatherings. The Lady Lecturers also turned out good work.

Tunisia Day and the anniversary of the National War Front were celebrated with great enthusiasm in Masulipatam, Bezwada, Gudivada, Nuzvid and other centres in the district. The meeting at Masulipatam was presided over by Rao Bahadur D. Mahanti, District Collector, Kistna, and the meeting at Bezwada was presided over by Mrs. S. Kafoor, wife of Sub-Collector, Bezwada. Meetings at Gudivada and Nuzvid were presided by the Revenue Divisional Officers. At a parade held in Masulipatam, the District Collector took the salute.

The periodical combined Refresher Course for Guntur, Kistna and West Godavari districts, was successfully held at Bapatla. Meetings were addressed by District Organizer, and other workers of the National War Front in several centres in Guntur district. A huge public meeting, attended by more than 4,000 people, was held at Bapatla on May 7. The Assistant Director of War Publicity, Mr. S. Neelakantam, presided. The District Organizer, Kistna, the District Organizer, Guntur, the District Lecturer, East Godavari, the District Lecturer, Kistna, and Miss C. Padmavathi Devi delivered lectures.

KURNOOL.—Officers of the Revenue, Education, Public Health and other departments are carrying on intensive propaganda work, explaining to the people the present situation regarding the war. Thirty-seven meetings were held in interior villages, and the meetings were well-attended. Deacon Meshach, Member of the Madras District War Committee, visited this district on a propaganda tour for 20 days and the meetings addressed by him were appreciated by the public. The National War Front Organization is also attending to this important work in interior villages.

Tunisia Day was celebrated with great eclat throughout the district. Poor feeding was undertaken on a large scale and public meetings were held in several places. Village sports and competitions were held in several places. Prayers were offered in temples, mosques and churches. Processions formed an important item on the programme and the procession at Kurnool was very impressive.

MALABAR.—The usual propaganda activities were carried on. A large number of public meetings was held both in villages and towns by the National War Front staff and Revenue Officers working in close co-operation. Propaganda van (No. MSC. 7759) toured the district.

The combined celebrations of Tunisia Day and the anniversary of the National War Front were held on a grand scale throughout the district. The main items were ceremonial parades of Police, feeding of the poor or distribution of rice, distribution of sweets to school children, public prayers, public meetings and decoration of public buildings.

The celebration at Calicut commenced with a combined parade and March Past of Police, Fire Service and Civic Guards. At noon, rice was distributed to the poor at nine different centres in Calicut municipality. One hundred and thirty-eight bags of rice were distributed in Calicut itself. The inmates of the Leper Asylum, the Poor Home and the Mental Hospital were sumptuously fed on the day. Special poojas were performed in important temples such as the Guruvayoor temple, the Tiruvangad temple and services were held in mosques and churches. The public meeting at Calicut commenced with a short prayer by each of the religious representatives of the several communities such as Muslims, Hindus, Bhuddists, Arya Samajists, Parsis and Jains. The proceedings ended with a dance given by the girl-students of a local school. The success of the celebrations was mainly due to the hearty co-operation of the public everywhere.

The visit of His Excellency the Governor to Palghat on May 23 was immensely helpful in rousing public interest in war efforts. In spite of inclemency of weather, the public meeting addressed by His Excellency was very largely attended. Substantial purses were also presented to His Excellency on the occasion.

MADURA.—The Regional Leader, Sir P. T. Rajan, visited Palni on May 7 and 8, and delivered two lectures, one at Manur and the other at Kanakkampatti. He presided over an entertainment arranged by the Dindigul Taluk War Committee on May 30 in aid of the Amenities for Troops Fund. The lecturer attached to the Regional Leader delivered four lectures at Manur, Kanakkampatti, Chatrapatti and Ayakudi. The District Organizer toured 12 days, visited 13 Reading Circles, delivered 6 lectures and enrolled 180 members. The Lady Lecturer, Mrs. A. S. D. Charles, toured Palni, Periyakulam and Melur taluks for 26 days, delivered 24 lectures, inspected 14 Reading Circles and enrolled 412 members. The Acting District Lecturer, Mr. Sheik Abdul Kadir, toured Tirumangalam, Usilampatti and Madura taluks for 26 days, delivered 18 lectures, inspected 15 Reading Circles and enrolled

120 members. The main topics emphasised by the National War Front staff were "Grow More Food," Recruitment and Rama Deepa lamps.

The work of the Taluk Organizer, Uthamapalayam, deserves special mention. Khan Sahib N. K. P. P. Rowther visited 20 villages, and inspected 12 Reading Circles. He also helped recruitment by bringing in 15 volunteers. In all, 43 meetings were held by the Taluk Organizers.

Mr. P. V. Hanumantha Rao toured Kodaikanal and Dindigul taluks for 8 days and delivered 6 lectures. The National War Front staff organized and helped in the celebration of the National War Front anniversary and Tunisia Day in their respective taluks.

The Taluk Propagandists visited 306 villages in the district, held 83 public meetings, and inspected 76 Reading Circles. The work of M. A. Muthirulan, Taluk Propagandist, Madura, is worth mentioning. The Revenue subordinates held 150 meetings and inspected 185 Reading Circles.

Tunisia Day and National War Front Anniversary Celebrations.—On the morning of May 21, there was a display of military weapons in Krishna Rao Tank Square. Each section was under the supervision of Military Officers who explained to the public the use of the weapons. Messrs. S. Chidambaram Pillai, P. K. Shanmuganathan, and P. Felix of the Celebration Committee were present. About 2,000 people visited the place. At noon, special prayers and poojas were offered and performed in all temples, mosques and churches. Mr. R. S. Naidu, Executive Officer, arranged for a special abishekam, archana and pooja in Sri Meenakshi Temple, Madura. Messrs. Chidambaram Pillai, P. K. Shanmuganathan and P. Rangasami Naidu attended the pooja on behalf of the Committee. After the pooja, nearly 2,000 poor people were fed in the temple premises. Messrs. R. S. Naidu and P. Rangasami Naidu were in charge of the arrangements. Messrs. S. Chidambaram Pillai and P. K. Shanmuganathan also were present. In the afternoon, sweets were distributed to about 2,000 children in the Kalyana Mantapam of the temple, supervised personally by Messrs. R. S. Naidu, P. Rangasami Naidu and A. Ranganatham.

In the evening, there was a grand procession with temple elephants and the meeting held subsequently was attended by more than 15,000 people. Sir P. T. Rajan presided.

An officer of the Punjabi Regiment and Messrs. P. Rangasami Naidu, Chairman, Madura Municipal Council, W. P. A. Soundarapandia Nadar, President, District Board, Madura, T. C. Sreenivasa Ayyangar, Edwin Periyanayagam, Advocate, Kadir Mohammad Ghani, M. Duraisamy Pillai, Public Prosecutor, K. L. Venkataraman, K. V. Alagirisamy, Mrs. A. S. D. Charles and others spoke.

Tunisia Day was celebrated with equal enthusiasm at Tirumangalam, Kodaikanal, Usilampatti, Uthamapalayam, Palni, etc.

Dindigul Taluk War Committee.—Tunisia Day and the first anniversary of the National War Front were celebrated with great enthusiasm at Dindigul. There was a big procession, distribution of sweets to school children and a public meeting which was attended by more than 4,000 people.

Twelve village propaganda meetings were held in Kanniapuram, Thimmalakundu, Reddapatti, Palakkanoothu, etc. All these meetings were arranged by Revenue officials and were well-attended. The Dindigul Taluk War Committee enrolled 167 members for the National War Front. Rama Deepa lamps were demonstrated at all propaganda meetings.

Victory House continued to attract a large number of visitors. The beautiful models kindly supplied by the Director of War Publicity, Madras, are appreciated by the visitors.

A benefit performance was held by the Committee in aid of the Amenities for Troops Fund and the Red-Cross Fund. A sum of nearly Rs. 7,000 was realized. The success of the function is due to the untiring efforts of Dr. Thomas Asirvatham, Secretary of the Entertainment Sub-Committee, who was assisted by the Police officials and the Municipal staff. A large number of tickets was sold by Messrs. M. S. Ponnuswami Thevar, V. Jegannatha Ayyangar, Rajaram Naidu, Ratnam Pillai, N. R. Sambandam Pillai, J. Gnaniah and T. S. A. Abdul Rahim. The performance was an unqualified success. Sir P. T. Rajan, Regional Leader, presided.

The Civic Guards of Dindigul town are rendering useful service in regulating the crowd at the Poor Man's Depot. Thirty-two men were sent to the Extra-Assistant Recruiting Officer through Victory House, 7 persons

POOJA PERFORMED FOR VICTORY.—His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope visited "Rama Mandiram," Poonamallee High Road, Madras, in connection with the Homams and poojahs performed under the direction and immediate presence of H. H. Maunanda Saraswathi Swamigal, head of the Dhatathria Mutt, Courtallam, for the success of the Allies. Photo shows His Excellency being received by Mr. S. V. Ramakrishna Mudaliyar and his wife Srimathi Rajalakshmi.

were sent to the Assistant Technical Recruiting Officer, Trichinopoly, for enrolment and 17 applications for War Technicians' training were sent to the Collector, Madura. Four applications from evacuees were forwarded to the Refugee Officer, Madras, for financial assistance.

United Nations Day at Dindigul.—All religious institutions in the town and the taluk were requested to offer special prayers and poojas for the success of the Allies on United Nations Day. Flags of the United Nations were hoisted on all public buildings. Mr. G. T. Narayanaswami Naidu, Managing Director of the Soundraraja Mills, gave a donation of Rs. 100 to meet the expenses of the celebrations.

A huge procession, about 3,500 strong, with the decorated portraits of the leaders of the United Nations started from the Municipal Office and proceeded to the Municipal High School playgrounds where a public meeting was held under the presidentship of Mr. R. T. Chari, I.C.S., Sub-Collector. The Union Jack, the Stars and Stripes (American flag), the Pandian flag, the Russian flag and the Chinese flag were unfurled simultaneously by Mr. R. T. Chari, I.C.S., the Rev. A. A. Martin of the American Mission, Rao Sahib M. S. P. Solai Nadar, President, Mr. P. K. Shanmuganatham, District Organizer, and Mr. G. T. Narayanaswami Naidu. Next, the above five gentlemen took the salute at the march past of the Boy Scouts, the Police, the Civic Guards and the staff of the Municipal Elementary School.

Mr. R. T. Chari spoke on the significance of United Nations' Day. The Rev. A. A. Martin spoke on Anglo-American co-operation and the origin of the "Star Spangled Banner." (His speech was translated into Tamil by Mr. J. Gnaniah, Secretary of the Dindigul Taluk War Committee.) Mr. P. K. Shanmuganathan, District Organizer, spoke on the importance of the celebrations.

Sports were held for school boys and girls and prizes were given away by Mr. Chari. Special war ballads composed by the Rev. A. Nalliah of the American Mission were sung. Sweets were distributed to school children.

The Committee's thanks are due to Mr. R. T. Chari, I.C.S., Sub-Collector, the Rev. A. A. Martin, Mr. G. T. Narayanaswami, Mr. N. R. Sambandam Pillai, Municipal Commissioner, Mr. G. Gnanasambandam Pillai, Municipal Engineer, Dr. Sankaranarayana

Ayyar, Health Officer, Dr. Thomas Asirvatham, Secretary of the Entertainments Sub-Committee, Dr. Kurien, Mr. Oliver Cheliah and Mr. M. S. Ponnuswami Tevar, Tahsildar, for their enthusiastic co-operation, in making the celebrations an outstanding success.

NILGIRIS.—The District Organizer attended the sports meet of the Ooty Youths Union Brigade when he distributed propaganda literature on "Grow More Food." The Union Brigade observed a day of prayer for the victory of the Allies. Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai, I.S.O., presided. There was a large gathering present. The District Organizer was one of the speakers.

The Divisional Organizer and Propagandists attended the Badaga Rovers Moot. More than 3,000 Rovers were present. Lieut.-Col. K. R. K. Ayyangar, O.B.E., an active member of the National War Front, presided. He appealed to people to help war efforts. The District Organizer also addressed the meeting.

The District Organizer inspected the Reading Circle at Gudalur and addressed a meeting at Naduvattam.

His Excellency the Governor addressed a public meeting at Gudalur on May 9 when the sum of Rs. 10,000 was presented to him for the Governor's War Fund. The District Organizer addressed another meeting held under the presidentship of Mr. Krishnan Nair.

On May 25, the District Organizer attended the annual meeting of the Young Badaga Association held under the presidentship of Mr. S. V. Ramamurthi, C.I.E., I.C.S., Adviser to His Excellency the Governor. Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Ramiah of Bellary appealed to Badaga youngmen to join the army in large numbers.

His Excellency the Governor addressed a public meeting at Kotagiri on May 30 when a sum of Rs. 7,123-4-1 was presented to the Governor's War Fund.

The District Lecturer addressed meetings at Araihatty, Iduhatty, Nundala, Thoratty, Muthinad, Kilkunda, Ithlar, etc. He inspected Reading Circles and enrolled a number of members for the National War Front.

The Honorary Divisional Organizer addressed a number of meetings in Badaga villages. The Propagandists turned out good work. War films and slides were exhibited in cinemas. Leaflets were distributed and posters were exhibited in all important centres.

Tunisia Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm at Kotagiri when all public buildings were gaily decorated. Sweets were distributed to school children.

The District Organizer visited the families of soldiers on active service.

SALEM.—Tunisia Day was celebrated throughout the district in all important centres with much enthusiasm. A public meeting was held at Salem under the presidentship of Mr. J. R. Bett, I.C.S., Collector. The Collector, Major-General H. L. Davies, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., Diwan Bahadur K. Sundaram Chettiar, retired High Court Judge, Rao Bahadur T. M. Chinnaya Pillai, District Organizer, and Company Havildar-Major Vajravelu, addressed the meeting.

Sir P. T. Rajan, Regional Leader, National War Front, Tamil Nad, visited this district between May 27 and 29 and addressed well-attended public meetings at Salem, Dharmapuri and Namakkal. His tour gave an impetus to the National War Front movement.

The District Organizer addressed 16 meetings; the District Lecturer 11 and Taluk Propagandists 404. A large number of Reading Circles was inspected by the officers of the National War Front and the officials of other Government Departments. The Reading Circles are getting regular supplies of propaganda literature and they are reported to be functioning well. War films and slides were exhibited in cinema houses. A Victory House was opened at Rasipur on May 2 by the Collector.

RAMNAD.—The District Organizer held 6 mass meetings in the month. The acting District Lecturer, Mr. M. Subramania Ayyar, addressed two meetings. Mr. V. Ganapathy Ayyar, the Permanent District Lecturer, inspected 8 Reading Circles and addressed 4 public meetings. The Additional District Lecturer toured 22 days and visited 22 villages, mostly Adi-Dravida colonies. He inspected 11 Reading Circles. He enquired into the welfare of soldiers' families. The Revenue officials conducted 39 meetings and the Honorary Taluk Officers and Propagandists held 192 meetings. The total number of propaganda meetings held throughout the district during the month was 225.

Tunisia Day and National War Front anniversary was celebrated in all taluk headquarters and rural areas. The District Organizer participated in the celebrations at Ramnad which were very successfully conducted by the Raja of Ramnad, the Estate Manager and Khan Bahadur Abdul Rahiman Marakkayar of Mandapam. The Khan Bahadur fed 1,500 poor people. The Assistant Tahsildar of Ramnad, Rao Sahib K. A. Walker, took an active part in the celebrations. Mr. A. V. P. L. C. T. Ramanathan Chettiar and Rao Bahadur M. R. S. Ratnavelusamy Chettiar helped the celebrations at Karaikudi. The Collector of Ramnad was present. The Sub-Collector of Ramnad and prominent non-officials celebrated the day at Virudunagar. Special prayers and poojas were offered in all the temples, mosques and churches.

The staff of the National War Front and subordinates of the Revenue and other departments held 255 propaganda meetings. Propaganda literature was distributed. Lantern slides and war films were exhibited in cinemas.

SOUTH KANARA.—A benefit show was held at Adi Udipi Maidan in Udipi taluk in aid of the War Fund on May 19. Tunisia Day was celebrated on a grand scale throughout the district.

TRICHINOPOLY.—Mr. M. Natarajan, District Lecturer, addressed public meetings at Trichinopoly, Musiri, Karungulam, Esanai, Thiruvalarsolai, Pappakurichi and Alathur. Mr. A. Pakkiam, additional District Lecturer, visited Kilakurichi, Manaparai, Pullambadi, Periyaverseli, and addressed public meetings. Mr. Santhanaswamy Peter, Lecturer for Kallas and Maravas, visited 10 villages and addressed public meetings at Annamangalam, Thondamanthurai and Musiri. Mr. A. M. J. Dhanaswamy Pillai addressed public meetings at Palankaveri, Iyyampatti, Thirupalathurai, Pettavaithalai, Perugamani, Pathalapatty, Andanallur, Tiruncheudurai and Vengur. He attended an agricultural conference. Mr. K. Muthuramalingam, Honorary Divisional Organizer, Karur, addressed public meetings at North Pudur, Chinnadarapuram, Palayam and Karur, besides inspecting Reading Circles in these places. Mr. K. M. Palaniappa Mudaliar, Honorary Divisional Organizer, Kulitalai, addressed public meetings at Panchapatty, Pappakapatty, Pothu Rowtherpatty and Kulitalai. Mr. N. S. Ramanarasu, Honorary Divisional Organizer, Ariyalur, visited Kallankurichi, Ottakovil, Udayarpalayam, Jayancondam, Gangaikondan, Ulkottai, Vanathirayankuppam and Kollapuram. He held 8 public meetings and inspected 5 Reading Circles. The 11 Taluk Propagandists visited 318 villages and carried on intensive propaganda. The Taluk Propagandists travelled in all 67½ miles, inspected 117 Reading Circles and addressed 150 public meetings during the month. Mr. O. V. Narayanaswami, District Ballad-master, sang war ballads in 17 important centres. Mr. S. Krishnamoorthy, Security Inspector, and Mr. Alfred, Rural Recreation Organizer, gave intensive training to village guards. The Security Instructors did satisfactory work and visited 38 villages in Trichinopoly taluk.

Propaganda was carried on by Officers of the Revenue Department as shown below.

Karur Division.—Karur taluk, 18 meetings; Kulitalai taluk, 12 meetings; Musiri Division—Musiri taluk, 12 meetings; Lalgudi taluk, 12 meetings; Turayur sub-taluk, 3 meetings; Ariyalur Division—Perambalur taluk, 15 meetings; Trichinopoly Division—Trichinopoly, 17 meetings.

The staff of the Agricultural Department addressed propaganda public meetings in different parts of the district. The staff of the Health Department delivered 58 lectures, besides inspecting Reading Circles. Thirteen meetings were addressed by the Officers of the Registration Department. Mr. Veerasamy Pathar, Personal Assistant to the District Educational Officer, addressed 7 propaganda meetings and the Junior Deputy Inspector of Schools addressed 7 public meetings in various parts of the district.

Tunisia Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm at Trichinopoly and all taluk centres in the district. Processions were taken out, the poor were fed sumptuously and public meetings were held. In Trichinopoly, there was an impressive march past of all services, Mr. S. K. Chettur, I.C.S., Collector, taking the salute. The Collector made an impressive speech on the Tunisian victory. There was a large and distinguished audience present on the occasion.

About 12,000 poor people were fed in seven centres in Trichinopoly and Srirangam. In the evening, a large procession was taken out with elephants, National War Front posters and placards. A monster public meeting was held at the Town Hall square which was attended by more than 20,000 people. Mrs. Chettur, wife of

the Collector, distributed clothes to the poor. The Collector made a speech and he was followed by Mr. Natarajan, District Lecturer, Mr. Pakkiam, Additional District Lecturer, and Miss Visalakshi Ammal. Towards the close, sweets were distributed to all the school children present.

Sir P. T. Rajan, Regional Leader, addressed a public meeting at Musiri on May 30. The meeting was well-attended.

Propaganda Vans

Following is a summary of the work turned out by the propaganda vans in the month of May:—

MSC. 6984—*Nellore.*—The van toured in the district 25 days and visited 26 villages, covering a distance of 303 miles. Lantern slides and films were shown at every village visited by the van. The van attracted large crowds of people numbering 2,000 at each place it visited. Propaganda was very effective and encouraging and tended to increase recruitment to the Armed forces. The van returned to headquarters in working order on May 31.

MSC. 6985—*Kistna.*—The van visited 42 villages in the course of a tour of 20 days in the district. Films and lantern slides were shown and more than 24,000 people in all attended the shows. The van participated in the anniversary celebration of the National War Front and Tunisia Day at Masulipatam.

MSC. 7162—*South Kanara.*—The van was on tour from May 5 to 15 and 25 to 31 in the district and visited 17 villages. The van could not go on tour from May 16 to 24 due to heavy rains. In the 17 villages visited by the van, war films were shown. Large crowds of villagers who gathered appreciated the shows, the radio and gramophone music.

MSC. 7760—*Kurnool.*—The van was sent to Kurnool on May 14. As the amplifier of the P.A. system was out of order, the van was under repairs till the end of the month.

MSC. 7629—*Guntur.*—The van visited six villages. As usual, films and lantern slides were shown. From May 1 to 8 the van was at Bapatla and was useful in the propaganda campaign during the Referesher Course for the staff of the three districts of Guntur, Kistna and West Godavari. Cinema exhibition was held every night, at the propaganda meetings. The exhibition was witnessed by audiences ranging from 2,000 to 5,000 persons. From May 9 to the end of the month the van could not be put on the road partly on account of the illness of the operator and partly because of certain repairs to the van.

MSC. 7468—*North Arcot.*—The van toured in the district from May 6 to 28 and visited 10 villages. On May 15 the van attended a great festival at Gudiyattam. War films were exhibited to a large crowd of 7,000 villagers. Besides, the van was in attendance at the Tunisian Victory celebration at Vellore on May 21. Owing to some repairs to the dynamo and projector, the van could not carry out its full programme for the rest of the month.

MSC. 7638—*West Godavari.*—The van toured 11 villages in the district covering 250 miles and exhibited war pictures. Nearly five to six thousand people attended and appreciated the shows. Due to the Refresher Course at Bapatla, the van started its tour rather late and as such could not visit more villages.

MSC. 3438—*Chittoor.*—Due to repairs to the radiator and other parts, the van could not tour the district interior. On Tunisia Day, the van exhibited war films and played gramophone records at Chittoor. Large crowds attended and appreciated the show.

MSC. 7677—*Tanjore.*—The van toured in the taluks of Nannilam, Negapatam, Mannargudi, Kumbakonam and Tanjore during the month. It covered a distance of 302 miles during the 17 days it was on tour. Due to disorder in the generator engine, only gramophone records were played. On Tunisia Day, the van was of immense help in attracting crowds. The van was also very useful at Tanjore on May 1 when a grand military display was held at the Borstal school grounds. On May 23, the van was sent to Kumbakonam for certain minor repairs.

MDU. 28—*Madura.*—The van toured in three taluks, viz., Palni, Melur and periyakulam and took part in the Tunisia Day celebrations. It attended a special meeting in Tirumangalam taluk. The van covered a distance of 973 miles.

MSC 6104 (*Military van*).—This van especially allotted for troop shows continued to work in the neighbourhood of Madras.

MSC. 7536—*Madras.*—The van has been attending to propaganda work as usual in the city.

MSC. 736—*Nilgiris.*—This van was under repair.

MSC. 7537.—This van was useful during Tunisia Day celebrations in the city. The engine and dynamo are under repair and as soon as the repairs are completed, the van will be sent to one of the districts.

MSC. 671.—This van which has been completely fitted up will be shortly sent out to one of the districts.

MDM. 651.—The fitting up of the van is nearing completion and it will be sent out to one of the districts soon.

MSC. 6983—*Vizagapatam.*—The van was on tour in the district for 12 days and visited 21 villages, covering a distance of 183 miles. Films and magic lantern slides were shown.

MSC. 6947.—The van is undergoing renovation at Messrs. Simpson & Co. and will be sent to one of the districts after it is ready.

Reports in respect of vans Nos. MSC. 6946, 7160, 7161, 7759, 7665, 7704, 7711, 7536 and 7713 have not been received.

Films.—The films received from the Film Advisory Board, Bombay, have been distributed to vans as and when received.

Supply of Tamil and Telugu war shorts for troop shows every week-end to Colonel Saunders of the Madras Regiment, Madukarai, is being continued.

Leaflets.—Slides and other war propaganda materials were as usual promptly distributed to all vans on their receipt.

Director's Tour

Capt. G. T. B. Harvey, Director of War Publicity, visited the following places in May:—

South Arcot district.—Villupuram, Kilperambakkam and Bimanaickenpet (inspection of Village Guards), Parangiyur, Arasur and Senkurichi (inspection of Reading Circles), Kallakurichi (Conference of National War Front workers). Visited Victory House at Ulundurpet.

War Committees, Depots, Etc

Madras District War Committee

The Propaganda Sub-Committee of the Madras District War Committee met once during the month of May, and distributed the war literature received from the Director of War Publicity and other sources, to the various institutions, clubs, societies and reading rooms in the City of Madras.

In response to an appeal received from the Director of War Publicity, Mr. V. C. Sundararajan, Secretary, Propaganda Sub-Committee, interviewed a large number of gentlemen for the collection of second-hand literature for the use of the troops.

The President, Madras District War Committee, issued an appeal for funds for the feeding of the poor on Friday, May 21, in connection with the Tunisian Victory celebrations. The response was generous. Several thousands of people were fed in the city at the following eight centres:—

Triplicane Annadana Samajam, Purasawalkam Annadana Samajam, the Corporation Poor House, Y.M.C.A. (Central), the Chennapuri Annadana Samajam, Monegar Choultry, Sri Ramakrishna Mission Students' Home, the Salvation Army "V" Eating Houses situated in North Beach Road and Choolai.

His Excellency the Governor of Madras, accompanied by the Collector of Madras, visited four of the centres where the poor were fed. Sir George Boag, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., First Adviser to His Excellency the Governor, visited two centres while Sir Hugh Hood, I.C.S., Adviser to the Governor, visited two other centres.

Special prayers were offered in temples, mosques and churches in different parts of the city to mark the success of the Allies in Tunisia.

Tunisa Day and the First Anniversary of the National War Front was celebrated in the City on May 21. In the morning, units of the R.A.F., artillery, infantry, cavalry, engineers, W.A.C. (I), armoured and fighting transport vehicles and St. Johns Ambulance brigade, boy scouts, girl guides, National War Front village guards and Civil Labour Units marched past. His Excellency the Governor who took the salute from the Munro Statue near the Island Grounds. A huge holiday crowd witnessed the celebrations. A number of Royal Air Forces bombers and sea planes flew in formation at the march past and dipped in salute. In the evening, a big mass meeting was held at the Senate House. His Excellency the Governor presided on the occasion and made a stirring

speech. Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai and Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu spoke in Tamil and Telugu, respectively, on the Tunisian Victory. Rao Sahib Albert Jesudasan, City Organizer, National War Front, translated the Governor's speech into Tamil. Rao Bahadur C. Tadulingam Mudaliyar, Mayor of Madras, proposed a vote of thanks to His Excellency.

The Recruitment Sub-Committee of the Madras District War Committee met twice during May and recommended 13 candidates for Emergency Commission in His Majesty's Forces, out of 31 candidates interviewed.

Madras Provincial War Committee

District Recruitment Sub-Committees.—Recruitment figures for the whole Presidency for the month of April were better than those of previous months. As seen from the reports received, Revenue officials and members of District Recruitment Sub-Committees have been doing intensive propaganda in furtherance of recruitment.

Sir Arthur Hope Club.—The Club is found very useful by the soldiers who pass through Madras.

Provincial Selection Board.—The Board met twice during the month of May and interviewed 39 candidates.

Five candidates were recommended for Land Forces, one for the Navy and fourteen for Pre-Cadet Training at the Adyar School.

Propaganda Sub-Committee

There was a meeting of the Propaganda Sub-Committee on May 10.

A leaflet on "These are your men" was approved for publication in English and in the Indian languages. In the course of the month, another leaflet containing the broadcast talk of His Excellency on May 21 was prepared and published in English and in the Indian languages.

The recommendation of the Special Committee of Judges to examine War compositions in Malayalam, that "the prize of Rs. 100 be equally divided between C. Nainankutti Master, Calicut, and P. V. Nair, Ottapalem," was accepted and remittances were made to them accordingly.

The Sub-Committee considered that there was no necessity for recording gramophone war compositions for which prizes had been awarded inasmuch as there were 1,800 gramophone records in various Indian languages, and resolved that 200 copies of each of the prize compositions in Tamil, Malayalam and Kannada be printed and distributed at the rate of a dozen to each of the District War Committees in the language districts, to be put to such use as they liked.

The Director of War Publicity explained to the Sub-Committee that arrangements were being made for the immediate collection and disposal of waste, that a scheme was already in practice, and that he would shortly be sending a note on the subject for the information of members.

Welfare Committees

BELLARY.—There is a welfare committee in every taluk of the district and each of them has gained popularity. The usual information sought for is about the tardy receipt or non-receipt of remittances.

EAST GODAVARI.—The Village Security Scheme is working satisfactorily and the Security Supervisor inspected various centres along with the Security Inspector and the Rural Recreation Organizer. The Forces Club at Jagannaickpur is of great use in giving amenities to troops. The District Organizer has been appointed as member of the Soldiers' Board.

MADURA.—A new office room has been constructed to accommodate the Soldiers' Board. The first meeting will be held on June 8. Every taluk has very efficient Welfare Committees who are doing good work.

RAMNAD.—Except in a few villages the Village Security Scheme is in full operation. A Refresher Course was conducted at Ramnad from May 3 to 16 for training Athletic Propagandists. The Propagandist Inspector and the District Organizer supervised the course.

Eight meetings of the Taluk Welfare Committee were held at Ramnad, Aruppukottai, Sivaganga, Srivilliputtur, Sattur, Tiruppattur and Paramakudi.

Members of the Welfare Committees visited the families of soldiers serving overseas. The District Organizer visited many soldier families. The Additional District Lecturer (Scheduled class) visited 51 families of soldiers serving overseas. Under the direction of the Deputy Tahsildar, Paramakudi, the Revenue Inspector, Paramakudi, is preparing an estimate for the repair of the house of one Muthu Nachiar of Venkitankurichi, whose husband, Nagalinga Tevar, is serving overseas. Applications for educational concessions and family pension claims are being received in large numbers and the Revenue officials are attending to them.

SALEM.—All the Taluk Welfare Committees are reported to be working satisfactorily. The District Soldiers' Board met on May 26.

CHITTOOR.—The Chittoor District Soldiers' Board meeting was held at the Collector's office on June 16 under the presidentship of Mr. S. K. Hasan, I.C.S., District Collector. Major Pythian-Adams, Military Welfare Officer, Madras Area, was also present. Seven members including the Revenue Divisional Officers of Madanapalle, Chittoor and Chandragiri were present. The Welfare Officer explained the aims and working of the Soldiers' Board. Diwan Bahadur M. Ramakrishna Reddi, M.L.C., District Organizer, National War Front, Chittoor, and the lady lecturers of Chittoor and Madanapalle were co-opted as members. It was decided that copy of references relating to prisoners of war and correspondence with them may be forwarded to the Taluk Welfare Committees for further action. Major Pythian-Adams, Civil Liaison Officer, Madras Area, was pleased with the work done by the local committee and made certain suggestions for improvement. Subedar T. Pachiappa, Secretary, Soldiers' Board, proposed a vote of thanks.

Assistance to Evacuees

RAMNAD.—The sum of Rs. 15,968–5–6 has been sanctioned the relief of evacuees, thus bringing the total amount disbursed so far to Rs. 98,189–5–6. The evacuees camps at Kamuthi and Ramnad are attending to the medical needs of the evacuees.

Women's Work Party

BELLARY.—The work of the sewing and knitting parties organized at Adoni is progressing rather slowly, as they have lost in the past two months the guidance of Mrs. A. V. Ramiah of the T.V. Mission, Adoni, and Mrs. I. M. Fraser, wife of the previous Collector of Bellary, who have gone to the hills for the summer.

TRICHINOPOLY.—The Women's Work Party turned out substantial work under hospital requisites. They supplied 3,706 hospital requisites and 26 knitted garments.

Famine Relief

BELLARY.—In the two Revenue divisions of Bellary and Adoni comprising five taluks where the distress continues to be acute, 21 relief works have been opened, providing employment to 161,953 people and relief by cash dole to 5,468 people. As the wages are paid on the basis of the grain prices in the market, and as the payments are made partly in grain and partly in money, the workers are satisfied with the arrangement. In areas where fodder scarcity is felt keenly, three fodder depots have been opened at different centres, and arrangements are made to open a fourth one shortly.

Relief to Weavers

RAMNAD.—The collective weaving centre at Aruppukottai is working satisfactorily and is catering to the needs of the weavers in the surrounding places.

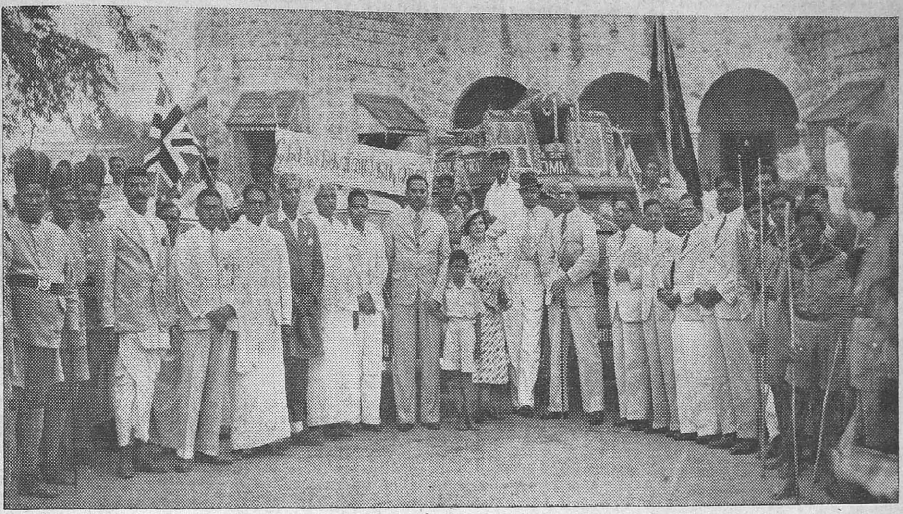
Salvage and Waste Collection

BELLARY.—The collection of waste paper in the towns started under the guidance of Mrs. I. M. Fraser, Vice-President, and Miss J. Bright, Secretary of the Bellary branch of the Indian Red Cross Society, is progressing steadily. As the Military Department has undertaken to take delivery of all the scrap iron and paper collected locally, arrangements have been made to intensify salvage work by appointing a special committee to organize the drive.

RAMNAD.—Eighteen bags of waste paper have been collected and deposited in the Taluk offices in this district. They will be sent to Mr. I. H. Cameron, Virudunagar. The Sub-Committee is turning out good work.

Recruitment Activities

ANANTAPUR.—The Technical Selection Committee, Anantapur, met on 13 and 24 and selected 16 candidates for training as War Technicians. The number of persons recruited during the month to the army is 561. Three candidates were recommended for Emergency Commission. The District War Committee, at its meeting held on May 24, decided to form a Sub-Committee with a view to selecting the right type of candidates for Emergency Commission and the Pre-Cadet Training School at Adyar. At the above meeting, the Collector presented the Bangalore R.Os. and a silver medal offered by Janab Syed Ahmed Sahib Bahadur, Personal Assistant to the Collector



UNITED NATIONS' DAY AT DINDIGUL.—Photo taken on the occasion of the celebration of the United Nations' Day at Dindigul, Madura district.

of Anantapur and a silver casket offered by Khan Sahib Hamiduddin Sahib Bahadur, Anantapur, to Mr. N. D. Kumari Rao, Railway contractor, Gooty, for good recruitment work.

BELLARY.—Officers of the Revenue Department and the staff of the National War Front co-operated with the Recruiting Officers. A certificate of merit was awarded to the Tahsildar of Rayadrug, for excellent work turned out by him in the previous months. This month, 73 men were recruited in Hospet taluk, 7 men in Alur taluk, 3 men in Adoni taluk through the influence of the Tahsildars concerned. Special efforts are being made to intensify recruitment by appointing a committee.

CHITTOOR.—The Recruitment Sub-Committee of the District War Committee met on May 11. The committee decided to hold a propaganda drive in the third week of June. Special recruitment meetings were presided over by the Collector at Vayalpad, Chinnatippasamudram and Gazulamandiem villages. The District Organizer, Honorary Divisional Organizers, Taluk Propagandists and other officials and non-officials addressed the meetings. The Assistant Recruiting Officer and Extra Assistant Recruiting Officers toured all over the district for enlisting recruits with the assistance of local revenue officials.

COIMBATORE.—The Extra Assistant Recruiting Officers and the Assistant Recruiting Officer were assisted as usual by the subordinates of the Revenue department.

EAST GODAVARI.—The Extra Assistant Recruiting Officer, East Godavari, toured extensively and recruited 12 candidates for the Technical Training Scheme.

GUNTUR.—During the month of April, 232 men were recruited to the army by the recruiting officers and 86 men were directly deputed from the Training Centre of Mr. P. V. Krishnaiah Choudary. The Recruitment Sub-Committee met on April 28 and selected one candidate for the King's Commission. The recruiting officers of the army continue to get the full quota they want.

KURNOOL.—The Revenue subordinates sent up 72 recruits during the month for enlistment in the army. The total number of recruits sent up from this district in May was 181. The District Selection Committee for War Technicians met on May 10. Three candidates turned up for interview, but as they did not possess the physical standards recently prescribed, they were rejected. Eight applications for selection as V.C.O. Cadets were sent up by the District Educational Officer, Kurnool. Two applications have been received for Emergency Commission and are pending disposal.

MADURA.—Two Emergency Commission applicants were interviewed. Seven hundred and sixty-two recruits were enlisted by the A.R.O., Madura, and 86 War Technicians by N.A. T.R.O.

MALABAR.—The Recruitment Sub-Committee selected two candidates for the Cadet Training School, but of these, one was found medically unfit. One candidate was also recommended for a V.C.O. The Technical Selection Committee interviewed 60 candidates on May 4 and selected 23 for training as War Technicians. Of these two were declared unfit at the medical examination. A special drive for stimulating recruitment was launched in the month. The drive was arranged by the District Collector, in consultation with the A.R.Os. of Cannanore and Coimbatore. Strenuous work was done in encouraging people to join the Army by the officers of the Revenue department and the National War Front, assisted by the staff of the Educational and Police departments. May 16 to 22 was declared Recruitment Week throughout the district. Leaflets were distributed widely and E.A.ROs. and Revenue officers toured their jurisdictions during the week. The public response was good.

RAMNAD.—Wide publicity was given to in tour programmes of Recruiting Officers. Thirteen candidates were selected out of 37 applicants for War Technicians' training. One of the selected candidates is a Burma evacuee.

SALEM.—Intensive recruitment propaganda is being carried on in the villages. The Revenue Officers are rendering all possible assistance to the Extra-Assistant Recruiting Officers. The Recruitment Sub-Committee met twice in the month, interviewed 6 candidates and recommended 4 for grant of Emergency Commission. The District Selection Committee for the selection of War Technicians met on May 18, interviewed 35 candidates and selected 12.

SOUTH KANARA.—Two applications for admission to the Pre-Cadet Training School were sent up. A candidate for Emergency Commission was selected, but his application was held up on certain technical grounds and is now being sent up.

The tour programmes received from Recruiting Officers were given wide publicity through the local press and official agency. A meeting of the Recruitment Sub-Committee of the District War Committee was held during the month.

TRICHINOPOLY.—The Recruitment Sub-Committee met and recommended candidates for Emergency Commission. The Air Force Recruiting Party visited Trichinopoly on May 27 and 28 and selected men for the Air Force. Men for the Civil Pioneer Force were recruited from Musiri division.

Following are the statistics available from the districts:

Recruitment to the army.—Madura 762; Anantapur 561; Kurnool 181; Bellary 83.

Emergency Commission (recommended).—Salem 4; Madura 2; Anantapur 3; South Kanara 1.

War Technicians.—Malabar 21; East Godavari 12; Salem 12; Madura 86; Ramnad 13; Anantapur 16; Chingleput 5.

Viceroy's Commission (recommended).—Malabar 1; Kurnool 8.

Cadet Training School.—Malabar 1; South Kanara 2.

2.

Village Reading Circles

CHINGLEPUT.—The District Organizer visited 12 Reading Circles. The District Lecturer inspected 11 Reading Circles. The work of the Reading Circles is satisfactory.

BELLARY.—There are 357 Reading Circles, for which there are 150 supervising officers, selected from the Revenue, Registration, Agriculture, Co-operative, Public Health and Medical Departments. All the Reading Circles are supplied with the latest war literature. A large number of these Circles have organized weekly *bhajana* and *purana* recitals and rural games, providing thereby entertainment and instruction.

MADURA.—There are 611 Reading Circles in the district. The District Organizer inspected 13 Reading Circles, the Lady Lecturer 14, the acting Lecturer 15, the Honorary Organizers 16, the Revenue Officials 185, the Police Officials 93 and taluk Propagandists 63. In the opinion of the Inspecting Officers, all the Reading Circles are working satisfactorily.

RAMNAD.—Five hundred and seventeen Reading Circles are working in this district. The National War Front staff, the staff of the Revenue department and others are seeing to the proper working of the Reading Circles. The District Organizer inspected the Reading Circles at Tiruthangal, Muhavoor and Ponnangani. An attempt is being made to reconstitute the Reading Circles into National War Front Committees.

TRICHINOPOLY.—Officers of all Government Departments inspected the Reading Circles which turned out efficient work. The staff of the National War Front conducted meetings at Reading Circles centres.

Govt. Departments and War Effort

Education Department

During the month under report, the sum of Rs. 30 was collected from the members of the staff of the office of the Director of Public Instruction and out of this sum 3 Defence Savings Certificates were purchased.

The following posters and pictures were distributed among the educational institutions of this Presidency; Poster about Field-Marshal Von Rundstedt, War in Pictures—English 22, 23 and 24; Canarese 21 and 22.

Defence Savings stamps to the value of Rs. 20 were sold to the members of the staff of the office of the Director of Public Instruction during the month.

Nineteen applications from the subordinates of this office for various posts in the Defence services were received and forwarded with the recommendation of the Director of Public Instruction. Of these, one was for the King's Commission in the Indian Air Force.

Madras Record Office

Subscription to the Defence Savings Provident Fund was Rs. 95. Defence savings groups have been formed consisting of 18 members and Rs. 44 was collected from them during the month for purchasing Defence Savings Certificates. A sum of Rs. 16-4-0 was also collected during the month by the sale of Defence Savings Stamps to the low-paid members of the staff who could not join the Defence Savings groups. One clerk has been appointed as upper division clerk in the office of the Controller of Naval Accounts, Bombay, and was relieved on May 22. One clerk and one attender have applied for Viceroy's Commission Officer's.

Medical Department

A. RECRUITMENT.

I. *Indian Medical Service—(a) I.M.S.—Ordinary Commissions* (General Service).—During the month of May 1943, there were five applications for Emergency Commissions in the Indian Medical Service for General Service anywhere in the world. Six candidates were interviewed and medically examined and all of them were found fit and suitable. Eleven candidates were recruited to the Emergency Cadre of the I.M.S. from this Province.

(b) *I.M.S.—Ordinary Commissions (Local Service in India only).*—Two applications were received for Emergency Commissions in the I.M.S. for service within Indian limits. Three candidates were found fit and suitable by the Madras Provincial (I.M.S.) Recruitment Committee. Two were appointed to the I.M.S. during the month.

(c) *I.M.S.—Specialist Commissions.*—One application from a general Medical Practitioner was received during the month for appointment as a Specialist in Medicine. One candidate for appointment as a Specialist in E.N.T. diseases was interviewed by the Provincial Committee and found fit and suitable. One candidate whose application for appointment as a Specialist in Surgery was already under consideration of the Director-General has been appointed during the month.

(d) *I.M.S.—(Women's Branch).*—Three applications were received from Women Medical Practitioners for appointment to the Emergency Cadre of the I.M.S. (Women's branch). One candidate who was interviewed was rejected by the Committee as she was found medically unfit.

II. *Indian Army Medical Corps.*—During the month under report, there were 44 applications for Emergency Commissions in the I.A.M.C., i.e., 34 for General Service, 9 for service within Indian limits and 1 from a lady candidate for general service anywhere in the world. The Madras Provincial (I.A.M.C.) Recruitment Committee met on the 11th and 12th May 1943 to select candidates for Emergency Commissions in the I.A.M.C. Fifteen candidates were interviewed during the 2 days and of these, 10 were selected while 5 were rejected on medical grounds. Besides these the Committee passed orders in the case of 2 applicants who were considered prima facie unsuitable for Emergency Commissions in the Indian Army Medical Corps as judged from their records without interviewing them. The number of applications for Emergency Commissions in the I.A.M.C. received during the month under report has been very encouraging.

III. *Civil Medical Practitioners (Graduates).*—Out of the 12 vacancies mentioned in the report for the month of April 1943, 3 have been filled up (2 by the Surgeon-General, Madras and 1 by the Assistant Director of Medical Services, Madras District, Bangalore). There are still 9 vacancies left unfilled and the question of filling up these vacancies is engaging the attention of the Surgeon-General.

IV. *Civil Medical Practitioners (Licentiates).*—Two vacancies remained unfilled at the beginning of the month and 2 more vacancies occurred during the month [one due to the increase in the cadre of Civil Medical Practitioners (Licentiates) and the other due to the discharge of a Civil Medical Practitioner (Licentiate) already employed]. Out of the total of 4 vacancies, 1 has been filled up and the question of filling up the remaining 3 vacancies is under consideration.

It has been decided that candidates who are above the age of 55 should not be entertained as Civil Medical Practitioners (Licentiates) in Military Hospitals in India.

V. *Army Nursing Services.—(a) Indian Military Nursing Service (Temporary).*—During the month of May 1943, applications were invited for the appointment of Nursing Sisters in the R.I.N. Hospital, Bombay, on the same terms and conditions as applicable for members of the Indian Military Nursing Service (Temporary). Eight nurses in Government Service and a private candidate applied for the above-mentioned service.

Two nurses who were employed in a Travancore State Hospital and who applied direct to the Director-General, Indian Medical Service, were selected for appointment to the Indian Military Nursing Service (Temporary).

Besides the above, 4 applications were received for appointment to the Indian Military Nursing Service (Temporary) during the month, 2 from nurses employed in Government Hospitals and 2 from private candidates. Four stipendiary final year pupil nurses who will be completing their nurses training by 30th June 1943 have also applied for enrolment to the Indian Military Nursing Service (Temporary). A nurse in Government service who was selected for enrolment to the Indian Military Nursing Service (Temporary) in October 1942 could not proceed on military service then on account of certain domestic troubles. She has now expressed her willingness for military service and her application has been forwarded to the Director-General, Indian Medical Service.

The Government have approved the proposal of the Surgeon-General that selected nursing sepoys may be given training for nursing in mental diseases in the Government Mental Hospital, Madras, for a period of 3 months in batches of 6 to 10 at a time. These nursing sepoys after training will be employed in the Military Mental Hospital, proposed to be opened.

(b) *Auxiliary Nursing Service.*—During the second week of May 1943, about 40 candidates were interviewed at Calicut by the Principal Matron in connexion with the selection for the next course. About 35 candidates have been selected as suitable for the course and they are kept in the waiting list.

For the first time 19 candidates have been posted for training at the Government Hospital for Women and Children, Madras, for an initial period of 2 months, after which they will be transferred to the General Hospital, Madras, or Stanley Hospital, Madras, if by that time the present trainees are called for military service.

In order to provide training to a large number of candidates, the possibility of renting private houses near certain selected training centres to serve as residential quarters is being examined.

B. GENERAL.

I. *War efforts with reference to A.R.P. (Medical)*—(a) *Blood Bank.*—The scheme for organizing whole Blood Banks in certain Government hospitals where refrigerating facilities are available is under consideration. The total number of donors bled and the balance of plasma available in the Blood Banks in this Presidency on 15th May 1943 are as follows:—

Number of donors bled.	Balance of plasma available in c.c.
2,760	1,79,070

(b) *Casualty Services.*—In view of the revised policy of Government relating to Civil Defence and the great need of doctors for the Army, the Government have ordered that the District Medical Officers of vulnerable towns in the mofussil should be Casualty Officers and Medical Officers employed as Staff Officers to the Casualty Officers should be replaced by non-medical men who are members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade (Overseas). The Government have also ordered that there is no need to appoint nurses in First Aid Posts in the mufassal vulnerable towns and that their places should be taken by First Aiders.

(c) *Hospital Services.*—As Bezwada and Trichinopoly have been re-classified as Class II vulnerable towns for purposes of Civil Defence, the Government have ordered the provision of 150 beds for air raid casualties in each of the above two towns. The payment of honorarium to Honorary Surgeons and Physicians and Honorary Assistant Medical Officers employed in the Government hospitals in Madras City, Vizagapatam and Cochin, which was sanctioned in February 1942, has been discontinued from 17th February 1943 and the question of paying them an allowance for each day of duty during air raids, is under consideration. Orders of Government on the proposals for re-organization of hospital services with reference to the revised Civil Defence policy are awaited.

II. *A.R.P. Medical Organization in the Madras Fortress Area—First Aid Posts.*—During the month notices of discharge of all the retention fee doctors from A.R.P. duties were issued with a view to encourage them to join the military. These doctors are relieved with effect from 1st June 1943.

(a) *City.*—For the 28 First Aid Posts in the City, there are 65 doctors, 141 nurses and 348 First Aiders (paid 197 and volunary 151).

(b) *Mufassil.*—For the 5 First Aid Posts in the mofussil there are 10 doctors, 4 nurses and 55 First Aiders (paid 32 and voluntary 23).

The question of accommodating the paid First Aiders in Barracks is under consideration.

(c) *Mobile First Aid Posts.*—There are now 15 doctors, all volunteers, 23 nurses, 30 nursing orderlies, 30 stretcher bearers, 12 lay persons and 10 drivers.

First Aid Parties.—Out of 155 parties sanctioned, there are now 113 parties (paid 112, voluntary 1).

Ambulances.—Out of 77 Ambulances required, there are now 57 (A.R.P. owned 50, war charities 2, hospital ambulances 5). During the month, one ambulance was converted into a light rescue lorry which accounts for the decrease of one in the number of ambulances as compared with last month's figures.

There are now 105 Ambulance attendants (97 paid and 8 voluntary).

Cars for First Aid Parties.—There are now 117 First Aid Party cars (100 A.R.P. owned and 17 voluntary). Of the 17 voluntary cars, 16 were originally shown as sitting case cars. As the Government of India have instructed that sitting case cars are not required, these have been fitted with stretcher racks and have been re-allotted as First Aid Party cars. As the owners of other volunteered cars did not like to have their cars fitted with stretcher racks they were taken into account.

General.—During the month, one of the Assistant Casualty Officers (Temporary Civil Assistant Surgeon Dr. M. S. Venugopal, M.B.B.S.), who was in charge of the A.R.P. Stores and Training was relieved from A.R.P. to take up his place in the Medical Department and in his place a Staff Officer was appointed.

From the beginning of this month, 3 out of the 5 whole-time First Aid Lecturers (medical men) were also relieved from A.R.P. duty and in their places non-medical men were appointed as full-time First Aid Lecturers (non-technical).

Training.—As usual the First Aiders in Parties and Posts are trained in advanced stretcher drill, etc., by the Instructors and in surgical dressings at the Government General, Stanley and Royapettah hospitals and the Government and Corporation dispensaries.

III. *St. John Ambulance Association and Brigade.*—During the month, 467 candidates passed in First Aid and Home Nursing and qualified themselves for the award of certificates.

An Ambulance division consisting of the members of the Ordnance Clothing Factory, Madras, is under formation and the registration forms for the proposed division have been sent to headquarters for sanction.

In response to the appeal issued by the Indian Red Cross Society and St. John Ambulance Association, a further sum of Rs. 34-10-0 was received from Tanjore and Srirangam.

In connexion with the Tunisia Day and the celebration of the first anniversary of the National War Front on the 21st May 1943, the organizers sent an appeal for the St. Johns to be represented at the celebrations. Madras Port Trust Ambulance Division took part in the march past when His Excellency the Governor took the salute.

Co-operative Department

Grow More Food Campaign.—Officers of the Co-operative Department continued the propaganda for growing more food. The Food Committee that met on 1st May resolved to request the Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies to prepare a booklet on "Grow More Food" Campaign and to send it to the Director of War Publicity. A draft booklet was accordingly compiled by the Additional Joint Registrar and sent to the Director of War Publicity. The question of translating it in the different languages of the Province and putting it in print is engaging the attention of the Director. It is hoped that the booklet will meet the long-felt need for such a book and will serve as a guide to the ryot and others interested in the campaign and to those engaged in the propaganda for Grow More Food.

Improved varieties of vegetable seeds and paddy seeds were distributed to the villagers in the South Kanara district. The Tiruvellore Taluk Agricultural Improvement Society in the Chingleput district has placed orders for the purchase of 100 tons of oil-cakes worth Rs. 12,600 for distribution to the members. Five more acres of land in the Vilpatti village in the Kodaikanal Hills in the Madura district have been reclaimed and brought under cultivation. The Kodaikanal Co-operative Stores has obtained a loan of Rs. 1,128 for reclamation and cultivation expenses. The Guntur District Co-operative Central Bank, Tenali, issued loans to the extent of Rs. 4,265 to 52 members in three societies for cultivation expenses under the Grow More Food Campaign. Out of the 14,129 bags of manure for which delivery orders were issued, 9,790 bags from 8 companies were actually delivered to societies in the Nilgiri district. 2,092 bags valued at Rs. 63,313 were sold to societies as owners. Besides these the Coimbatore-Nilgiris Central Bank issued loans to the extent of Rs. 94,370 to societies for the purchase of manure.

Cottage Industries.—The Salkapuram Cumbly Weavers' Co-operative Society in the Kurnool district supplied 62 blankets valued at Rs. 434 to the A.R.P. authorities. Steps are being taken to organize a co-operative society for the manufacture of paper at Amjikarai in the Chingleput district. A fresh sample of camouflage net produced by the Kodambakkam Cottage Industries Co-operative Society in the Chingleput district has been forwarded to the Joint Director of Industries and Commerce for test and the result of the test is awaited.

Proposals for the development of small scale and cottage industries have been made to the Government.

Propaganda.—Officers of the department continued to carry on propaganda in furtherance of war efforts, during their tours.

Emergency Food Supply Scheme.—On April 30 there were 844 primary stores and 21 central stores. The sales during the month amounted to Rs. 29·75 lakhs. The scheme for food distribution in select mofussil towns was introduced in the first week of April and the 14 central and 65 primary stores coming under the scheme have begun to build up reserve stocks and expand their business as contemplated in the scheme.

Thrift Campaign.—The question of devising ways and means of promoting an intensified savings scheme throughout the Province has been taken up by the Registrar and necessary instructions have been issued to the Deputy Registrars in the matter. The scheme includes savings through hundi-boxes, thrift certificates and insurance policies in the South India Co-operative Insurance Society. It is hoped that members of societies will take advantage of their increased incomes as a result of the rise in the price of agricultural commodities and try to save as much as possible, for a rainy day in the post-war period.

Weavers' Societies.—The Secretary, Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Co-operative Society, and the Special Deputy Registrar for Weavers' Societies, Madras, visited Salem, Rasipuram, Coimbatore, Udipi, Calicut, Mangalore, Madura, Aruppukottai, Kallidaikurichi, Ambasamudram, Tinnevelly and Sankarankoil in connexion with the production of cheap cloth. The progress made by weavers' societies in the Province in the execution of war orders is shown below:—

War orders production of textiles up to 15th May 1943.

Variety.	Quantity. Ordered.	Produced.	Passed.
Mazri	418,000	340,114	186,166
Dusters	75,000	75,676	15,524
Dosati	138,900	135,056	38,462
Handkerchiefs	25,000	26,778	15,000
Bunting cloth—Yellow	20,525	19,973	16,502
Huckaback towels	10,000	10,663	Nil.
Bandage cloth	325,000	330,285	14,833
Gauze cloth	110,000	117,348	Nil.
Bandage Plaster of Paris	800,000	866,406	184,560
Dungree cloth	34,542	35,409	34,870

Industries and Commerce Department

Government Textile Institute, Madras.—The latest development at the Government Textile Institute is the construction of a wheel for folding together several strands of single yarn for subsequent twisting of cord for camouflage nets.

War Technicians Training: Government School of Technology, Madras.—The training of war technicians continued to progress satisfactorily during the month under report. There are at present 243 technicians in the school under training in various trades.

Government Industrial School, Madura.—The school gave intensive training in various trades to about 206 war technicians during the month. Thirty-eight trainees who underwent training were despatched to army units. The night shift worked as usual.

Government Industrial School, Bellary.—During the month under review, one fresh admission was made. Nine enrolled fitter trainees were transferred to the Madras Training Centre, Anantapur. Some candidates were recruited and sent to the Technical Training Centre, Ramnad, for undergoing training there.

The progress of the trainees during the month was satisfactory.

Government Industrial Engineering Workshops, Madras.—One hundred and thirty-six war technicians are undergoing training at this workshop as indicated below:—

	Nos.		Nos.
Fitters	84	Machinists	4
Turners	30	Blacksmiths	18

War Supplies.—The following items of stores were manufactured and supplied during the month of April—

	Nos.
Buckles, brass, collapsible	286
Charpoys folding	190
Camouflage nets 29 feet × 29 feet	1,000
Do. 24 feet × 24 feet	1,025
Helves, pick-axe 6½ lb.	64,537
Do. 4½ lb.	11,295
Awl handles	58 & 11 12 doz.
Auger handles	321
Axes hand helves	500
Pith hats	212

The production of all items of stores is in progress in factory and sub-contract units spread all over the Presidency.

Leather Trades Institute, Madras.—Assistance was rendered by the staff of the institute in the tanning of cow and buff hides for war supplies section. Five hundred and sixty-seven pairs of brown buckle shoes were supplied to the A.R.P. as against an order for 1,000 pairs of shoes.

Engineering activities—Bezwada division.—Three boreholes put down by the departmental pumping sets are yielding water at 4, 4, and 12 gallons per minute at 45 feet, 48 feet and 46 feet to ground level, respectively. Four more boreholes are under progress.

One hand boring set, three test engines and one sugarcane mill engine are working in this division for military purposes.

Three more boring sets and one power drill are being arranged for war work.

Four test engine sets are working at military and evacuation camps. A special hand boring set is also being engaged for military purpose.

Tanjore division.—Nine departmental hand boring sets were engaged during the month in putting down borings for water-supply. A high speed pumping set and a power drill were also continued to be engaged for war work.

Coimbatore Division.—Three test engine sets are working in connexion with the water-supply to military personnel. In addition to this, 6 hand boring sets and 2 power drills are also working in military camps.

Government Industrial Engineering Workshops, Madras.—Repairs to engines engaged on war work are being carried out.

Fisheries Section.—Collections towards H.E. the Governor's War Fund during the month of April from hundi-boxes amounted to Rs. 27–10–0. Propaganda meetings were held by the Fisheries yard and school staff advising people to contribute liberally towards war effort in men and money.

Agriculture Department

Contributions.—The staff of this department contributed as follows:—

	RS.	A.	P.
His Excellency the Governor's War Fund	68	1	6
Defence Saving Certificates	233	0	0
Do. Stamps	318	4	0
Do. Provident Fund	1,073	12	0
Hundi collections	35	3	3
Entertainment collections	15	0	0
Defence Savings Bank Deposit	4	0	0
Total	1,747	4	9

Propaganda.—The staff of this department during their tours and in meetings connected with Grow More Food campaign and Agricultural Advisory Committees, availed of the opportunity to explain to the ryots as well as the public, the present war situation, the necessity for growing more food crops and liberal financial assistance towards war efforts. The various concessions afforded by Government to encourage production of food products were also explained.

Recruitment.—Propaganda was carried on in this direction also. Young and energetic men were advised to join the army and thereby help themselves with bright prospects and the war efforts. A few instances are given below: Mr. S. D. S. Albuquerque, Assistant, Nileshwar, was selected for a commission in the army by the Provincial Selection Board; the Agricultural Demonstrator, Jammalamadugu, sent up one candidate for war service; the Agricultural Demonstrator, Palni, sent up 3 candidates for enrolment in the army.

The recent Circular of the Government of India about the requirements of civilian clerks was communicated to all heads of offices of this Department. Several applications were received and forwarded.

General.—The Millet Section supplied the following strains:—

	LB.		LB.
Cholam	400	Cowpea	5-7/8
Cumbu	114	Lablab	1-1/8
Ragi	194	Vegetable lablab	6-3/8
Tenai	75		

Ergot.—The production was extended in a further area of 2½ acres.

The Marketing Section furnished this office with the following information:—

A detailed note on production, export trade and existing transport facilities available in respect of bananas.

Remarks on the recommendations of the Fruit and Fruit Products Committee of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research regarding steps taken for the supply of fruits and vegetables required for canning and preservation.

Figures of export of oil cakes by rail from this Province during the years 1936 to 1941.

VICTORY HOUSE OPENED AT KRISHNAGIRI.—Victory House, Krishnagiri, Salem district, was opened by Mr. R. M. Sundaram, I.C.S., Collector, on April 27.

A note on the availability of Babul bark for tanning purposes.

A list of important ghee mrakets in this Province for purchase of ghee to Defence services.

Statistics of production of oil-cakes and bones in this Province.

Figures of acreage, production, present rates and names and addresses of dealers in indigo in the important growing districts of this Province.

A short report on "Bones and Bonemeal" in Madras Province.

The Director of Industries and Commerce.—Names and addresses of manufacturers with equipments for producing large scale supplies of castor oil in this Province.

A list of important biscuit manufacturers in this Province who expressed willingness to manufacture and supply biscuits to Defence Services through the Director of Agriculture, Madras.

The Director-General of Supplies.—Wholesale prices of castor seeds at important markets of this Province through the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras.

The Deputy Director, Processed Foodstuffs Directorate, New Delhi.—Information regarding acreage and production of sweet potatoes in this Province through the Commissioner of Civil Supplies.

Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India, Delhi.—A short report on "Bones and Bonemeal" in Madras Province.

Curatior and District Agricultural Officer, Nilgiris.—Statistics of area under English and Indian vegetables in this Province.

Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies and Registrar of Co-operative Societies.—A brief note on the possibilities of organizing a co-operative society for the manufacture of aloe fibre at Annur.

Commissioner of Police and Collector, Madras.—Weekly statements showing total quantities of sugar received at and despatched from Madras Salt Cottaurs.

Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras.—Prices of important agricultural commodities at Madras City and wholesale prices of potatoes at Mettupalayam.

Tunisia Day was celebrated throughout the Province.

Engineering Department

The supply of cement for the balance A.R.P. works in the city of Madras is assured, as the Hony. Cement Advisor, Bombay, has issued a permit for the supply of 1,619 tons of cement in different lots during May, June and July. In view of the recent orders on the Revised Policy of the A.R.P., sanction of Government has been applied for for the execution of balance shelters and static tanks (for which the supply of cement is expected) and the works will be taken up, as soon as the sanction is received.

Notices have been served under Defence of India Rules on the Proprietors of 21 Hotels and Restaurants in the city of Madras, where more than 30 persons reside, for the execution of works and for arranging for the required personnel and equipment necessary in connexion with A.R.P. measures, giving them thirty days' notice to complete the items asked for.

Companies Department

A senior acting clerk of this office was appointed as Temporary Stenographer, Imperial Secretariat, New Delhi (War Resources and Reconstruction Committees of Council) and he was relieved on May 25.

Veterinary Department

Finance.—During the month, a sum of Rs. 34–10–0 was donated by the members of the department and another sum of Rs. 79–9–8 was collected from hundi boxes kept at the Veterinary Institutions and remitted towards His Excellency the Madras Governor's War Fund. Defence savings certificates and stamps to the value of Rs. 51 were purchased by the staff. The sum of Rs. 652–8–0 was contributed by the staff of the department towards the Defence Savings Provident Fund and another sum of Rs. 6–15–0 towards Defence Savings Bank Account.

Propaganda.—The officers of the department, both touring and stationary, continued to do propaganda work on the usual lines by explaining to the public the correct position regarding the War and exhorted them to help War effort in all possible directions by contributing liberally in the shape of men, money and materials. In particular, the significance of the Tunisian victory was stressed. The Veterinary Assistant Surgeons continued to visit in the course of their tours Village Reading Circles and delivered lectures on the War. The staff also participated in the "Grow More Food" campaigns especially in respect of increasing the production of milk and eggs and co-operated with the Taluk and District National War Front Organizations.

Recruitment.—The staff strongly advised young and able bodied men to join the Army, Navy and Air Force. Farriers for the army are being trained by the Department in Madras and Coimbatore.

Police Department

A sum of Rs. 123–12–0 was subscribed by the Police officials towards His Excellency's War Fund. Twenty-nine Police constables and the Armed Reserve donated their blood to the Blood Bank during May.

Registration Department

Kurnool, Chittoor-Cuddapah, West Godavari-Kistna, Chidambaram, Coimbatore and Trichinopoly.—The Sub-Registrars of the above districts, to whom the supervision of the Village Reading Circles is entrusted, visited their Circles frequently and read out and explained the latest War pamphlets to the public. They also conducted meetings and exhorted the people to devote their energy to grow more food and make the country self-sufficient in the matter of food supply. The concessions and facilities afforded by Government to the ryots for growing food crops were also explained to them. Mr. G. A. Kader Sahib, clerk, sub-registry office, Rayachoti, as supervisor, administered the National War Front pledge to about 450 people of that place.

Madras-Chingleput, Chittoor-Cuddapah, Coimbatore, South Kanara and Tanjore.—The chief activity in the month centred round the celebration of Tunisia Day and the occasion was availed of by the officers of the department to enlighten the people on the recent victories of the Allies and to bring home to them of the sacrifice necessary for scoring the final victory.

East Godavari.—The 22nd East and West Godavari Settibalija Conference was held on May 15 at Amalapuram, when about 1,500 people were present. Mr. A. Subbarao Nayudu, Sub-Registrar of Amalapuram, addressed the gathering on war efforts. He also visited several villages in his sub-district and supervised the arrangements made for feeding about 4,000 people on Tunisia Day.

The officers of this department sold Defence Savings Stamps to the value of Rs. 1,581–10–0 during April.

"Grow More Food"

Sale of Government House Vegetables

Following is the copy of a letter, dated June 9, from the City Organizer to the Provincial Organizer, National War Front, Madras.

The Grow More Food Campaign, owing to the efforts of Her Excellency the Honourable Lady Hope and the Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Madras and Mr. Farley was inaugurated in the city of Madras on April 20, 1943. Veg tables grown in the gardens of Government House, Mount Road, were taken in our propaganda van on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays and sold in different parts of the City at less than the market rates for the benefit of the poor living in cheris, etc. Before the actual sale commenced, special lectures were given to the people as to why the people of Madras should follow their Excellencies' magnanimous example in converting their pretty gardens full of sweet and beautiful plants and flowers into vegetable-growing gardens. The people were requested to convert any available plot in their houses or bungalows into vegetable growing gardens so that when any crisis came, they may be in a position to depend upon the vegetables grown in their gardens, as well as be able to help others by giving them their surplus.

When this campaign was started, it was thought that the expenditure involved in this connexion could be defrayed by the sale-proceeds and that a certain portion of the sum realized could be given to His Excellency the Governor's War Fund. But, unfortunately, this campaign was started at a time when the produce of the gardens of Government House was decreasing day by day to a great extent. We were promised to be supplied with chillies but, unfortunately the Overseer said that it was required for consumption by the Government House, Guindy. Further, the Produce of tomatoes declined and completely stopped after a few days of starting this campaign. Hence we were able to realise a sum of Rs. 144–5–0 from the sales effected from April 20 to May 31. However, as far as the National War Front is concerned, we were able to carry on a very intensive propaganda in connexion with the Grow More Food campaign. Apart from this, since the vegetables were sold at below the market rates to the poor people, the poor people are very grateful to Their Excellencies for their kind sympathy shown to them in allowing us to sell at such cheap rates.

The interest we took and the sympathetic way in which we were able to give the vegetables at these cheap rates has helped us in our work very much by getting more men into our fold.

I am submitting herewith the statement of account of the sale of vegetables from April 20 to May 31. I regret that owing to heavy pressure of work we were not able to send in that statement earlier.

Toludur Project

With a view to develop irrigation and to encourage the growth of food crops under the area commanded by the Toludur Project in the South Acot district, the Government have passed the following orders:—

1. Ryots in the area will be given loans under the Land Improvement Loans Act for converting their dry lands into wet and the scheme providing for the grant of loans under the Act by District Agricultural Officers for the purchase of manure and improved varieties of seed, will also be tried in the area. The loans to be granted by District Agricultural Officers for each of the two purposes mentioned above, will be on personal security up to a maximum of Rs. 50 to each applicant and subject to the condition that the amount disbursed to an applicant does not exceed fifteen times the assessment or rent paid by him and his sureties, if any.

2. Assessed waste lands and abandoned tank-bed lands under the project will be disposed of in the following manner:—

(i) Twenty-five per cent of the land both in compact blocks and in isolated plots (which should be of good quality) will be reserved for assignment to ex-soldiers of the present war. in case it is decided to grant land to them. In the meantime, the land so reserved will be assigned for temporary cultivation.

(ii) Five per cent of the lands in isolated plots which remain after the above reservation will be reserved for assignment to the communities eligible for help by the Labour department. If no member of these communities applies for the assignment of the land so reserved, such land may be granted temporarily to a member of these communities under the conditions in item (v) below.

(iii) The remaining land in isolated plots may be assigned or sold for market value and if no one wishes to buy it or if there are no reasonable offers, it may be granted for temporary cultivation.

(iv) The existing ban on assignment of lands in compact blocks (which are intended for future land colonization schemes) will continue to be in force, but such land may be granted temporarily for cultivation.

(v) The temporary grants under items (i), (iii) and (iv) above will be subject to the following conditions:—

(*a*) Lands which are fit for wet cultivation should be granted for paddy cultivation.

(*b*) Preference should be given to the land-less poor.

(*c*) The grant should be subject to the condition that the grantee shall not be entitled to any compensation for any expenditure incurred by him on reclamation of, or improvement to, the land, or to preferential claim for assignment of the land on the ground of sivoijama occupation.

(*d*) The period of grant for paddy cultivation should be for three years (i.e., faslis 1353, 1354 and 1355).

3. The Government have also thrown open for second-crop cultivation under the project an additional area of 8,306 acres, the extent already thrown open for such cultivation being 8,615 acres.

4. The existing rates of water-cess obtaining under the project will not be enhanced for the present.

Pambaleru Regulator

In pursuance of the "Grow More Food" campaign, the Government have sanctioned the immediate execution at an estimated cost of Rs. 45,000 of the scheme for the construction of a regulator across the Pambaleru river in Gudur taluk, Nellore district and for taking a channel through a new head-sluice to connect it on with the old channel up to the crossing of the Great Northern Trunk road and eventually to the existing Tippakuntapalem tank supply channel.

Famine Relief

In order to relieve the distress caused by famine in the Ceded districts, twenty-one relief works in the Bellary district, eleven in the Anantapur district, and three in the Kurnool district were in operation during the month of May 1943. On an average, 117,930 workers and 32,964 dependants were relieved per day in the famine works in the Bellary district, 42,660 workers and 12,689 dependants in the Anantapur district and 13,752 workers and 3,153 dependants in the Kurnool district. On the whole, a total sum of Rs. 8,94,400 has been sanctioned for expenditure on the works in May 1943 but this is exclusive of wages paid in the form of grain to workers in Bellary district. Over Rs. 70 lakhs have been spent so far on the current famine operations in all the three districts.

Restoration of Nilambur Tank

In pursuance of the 'Grow More Food' campaign, the Government have approved the expenditure of Rs. 1,07,000 on the work of restoration of the abandoned Nilambur tank in the Palladam taluk, Coimbatore district. It has been reported that the ryots have agreed to contribute Rs. 25,000 towards the cost of restoration and to pay a water-rate of Rs. 8 per acre.

MADURA.—The Madura-Ramnad Co-operative Bank has sanctioned loans to the extent of Rs. 37 lakhs to the several rural societies. All the loans are agricultural loans given to cultivators under the "Grow More Food" scheme. Rs. 2,388 was spent by the department in purchasing seed. The District Agricultural Officer distributed 1,500 lb. of green manure seeds free to Agricultural Associations. According to the Executive Engineer, Madura (Periyar Division), sufficient water has been provided in the main channel to bring under cultivation about 2,600 acres of land.

RAMNAD.—Railway 'A' class lands within the taluk of Sivaganga have been leased out for cultivation. Applications under the scheme are being received and are expeditiously dealt with. The National War Front staff, the Revenue Department and the Agricultural Department are co-operating to bring this vital scheme to a success. Propaganda in this direction is equally intensive.

TRICHINOPOLY.—The Food Production Committee, Trichinopoly, met on May 3 and May 24 under the presidentship of Mr. S. K. Chettur, I.C.S., Collector, and decided on the ways and means of increasing food production.

CUDDAPAH.—In order to give the maximum benefit to the various concessions granted by Government in the matter of growing more food, the District Agricultural Officer, Cuddapah, has called for and collected takkavi loan application.

Price Control

Rates of Timber

It has been observed that timber is being purchased at absurdly high rates by some of the timber merchants in the south. It is notified that in the event of the Government finding it necessary to requisition timber in the posssession of any person in the district of Coimbatore, Salem, North Arcot, South Arcot, Chingleput, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Madura, Ramnad and Tinnevelly and in the City of Madras, compensation will be paid by Government on the basis of actual cost to the owners, plus a reasonable margin of profit, but will under no circumstances exceed the rates shown in the schedule, which has been posted on the notice boards of the offices of the Collectors, the District Forest Officers and the Range Officers of these districts. This schedule allows a liberal margin of profit and will remain in force until further notice.

The traders in timber are warned that if they purchase timber of the species and categories given in the schedule at high rates, they will do so at their own risk, as in the event of requisitioning nothing more than the rates shown in the schedule will be paid by the Government.

Rice Rationing

As already announced, the Government have decided that an enquiry should be made on a statutory basis to collect information which will be required if it becomes necessary to introduce rationing of rice and millets in the City of Madras or in any other local area. With this view they are issuing two orders under the Defence of India Rules which will come into force immediately in the City. The first of these orders, viz., the Madras Rationing (Preparatory Measures) Order, 1943, provides for the appointment of Numbering Officers to paint or affix numbers to any premises and of Enquiry Officers to collect correct information and statistics which may be necessary for the introduction of rationing. The removal or obliteration, etc., of numbers painted or affixed by Numbering Officers becomes an offence punishable under the rules. Enquiry Officers may ask questions necessary for collecting the information and statistics required, and persons of whom the enquiry is made are bound to give correct information to the best of their knowledge and to furnish written answers (to which their signature or mark is to be affixed) if so required by the enquiry officer. Failure to do so, will be an offence punishable under the Defence of India Rules. Persons who give information which they know or believe to be false and persons who obstruct the Enquiry Officers in exercising their powers or doing their duties render themselves liable to punishment under rules 117 and 120 of the Defence of India Rules. The second order, the Madras Essential Articles Restricted Acquisition Order, 1943, is intended to prohibit the hoarding of essential articles, and will apply in the first instance to rice, cholam, cumbu and ragi. Except under a licence no person will be entitled to acquire quantities of these cereals beyond what is required for one month's consumption in his household or establishment. Those who have more than one month's stock already will not be allowed to replenish their stock until it falls below one month's requirements.

The Government trust that the public will co-operate fully in the pre-rationing enquiries and in the administration of the Essential Articles Restricted Acquisition Order.

Census in Madras City

The Government now have before them the result of a census of families in the Madras City which was prepared by the A.R.P. staff under their orders and which it was hoped would serve as a basis for rationing when such a step was found necessary. The results obtained are however widely divergent from calculations based on the Government of India census in 1941 and it is obvious that much wrong information has been given and passed without sufficient check. The Government have therefore decided that an enquiry on a statutory basis should be made at once. An order will be issued which will give enquiring officers adequate powers and under which persons giving false information will be liable to prosecution. The enquiry will also provide for a statement of stocks held by individuals. A special staff will be appointed to supervise the enquiry and prepare ration cards, if necessary, on the basis of the enquiry. The Commissioner of Civil Supplies who is attending the Government of India Conference at Bombay will take the opportunity for stuyding the Bombay system at first hand. This enquiry will be completed as soon as possible but it is to be understood that this enquiry does not commit the Government to the introduction of rationing in any particular place or at any particular than the full assessment.

In the meantime adequate stocks of rice are reaching the city and the Government will ensure continuance of such supplies.

MADURA.—There are now 22 poor man's depots in the district. All are doing good work and they have had the effect of reducing the prices of foodstuffs.

RAMNAD.—Price control rules and regulations are strictly enforced in this district. Cases of violation of the rules are severely dealt with. Controlled price level is being maintained throughout the district.

BELLARY.—The supply of foodgrains and the control of prices carried out through the agency of the Revenue and the Commercial Tax departments are satisfactory in all the taluks of the district. Prices however are still high.

Civil Defence

MALABAR.—The reorganization of the A.R.P. Scheme in Calicut, Tellicherry and Cannanore is in progress.

RAMNAD.—The A.R.P. staff at Mandapam is doing good work. Brownout is still in force in the 25 miles coastal belt. Half brown-out shades remain in force in places beyond 25 miles of coastal belt.

"Defective distribution in districts was largely due to difficulties in transport, and the problem was being tackled as well as possible. About 40,000 tons of rice were still waiting to be moved on from producing districts to deficit districts; but it was noteworthy that during the past fortnight the railways hauled as much as 20,000 tons, which was twice the record in recent months."

Sir HUGH WOOD, at a press Conference on June 17, 1943.

Miscellaneous

Restriction of Export of Piecegoods

Owing to the loss of the Burmese and Malayan markets the Government of India, on a representation made by this Government, introduced scheme in October 1942 under which exports of handloom piecegoods from this Province to Ceylon were licensed freely as and when consignments were actually ready for shipment. They indicated at the time that if the exports became unduly large it might become necessary to review the position. The exports to Ceylon have become very large and in view of the deterioration in the supply position of the cotton piecegoods in this country, the Government of India have decided to restrict exports of piecegoods to Ceylon and have allocated quarterly quotas for such exports. The quota fixed for the quarter ending June 1943 is 4 million yards. This was exhausted by the middle of May 1943. An additional quantity of one million yards for the remainder of the current quarter has been allotted, as a special case, to mitigate the hardship caused to the commercial community during the beginning of the quota system. The quota for the next quarter is likely to be 4 million yards only. The Export Trade Controller, Madras, will issue licences freely for the export of handloom piecegoods as and when shipments are actually ready, provided the quota fixed for each quarter is not exceeded.

The manufacturers and exporters of handloom piecegoods to Ceylon are warned against excessive production of piecegoods which find a market in Ceylon only and they are reminded that there is ample scope for the production of suitable types of cloth for sale in India.

Transfer of Motor Vehicles

The Government have recently issued an order prohibiting the transfer of possession of motor vehicles for which new tyres or tubes have been granted under the Tyre Rationing Order, save with the prior consent of the Area Rationing Authority who granted the permit. They have also prohibited the employment of any passenger or goods vehicle, for which a tyre permit has been granted, on any purpose not deemed by the Provincial Motor Transport Controller to be essential.

The object of this order is to prevent tyres granted to an essential user from being transferred with the vehicle to a non-essential user who would not himself have been granted a permit for a new tyre. There have been cases in which a vehicle whose owner was granted new tyres because he was an essential user was sold to a non-essential user within a few days of the new tyres being granted, suggesting that the transaction was deliberately designed to evade the Tyre Rationing Order. It is, therefore, necessary for Government to ensure that tyres which are granted for essential purposes continue to be used on those purposes, and with this end in view they must control the sale or transfer of vehicles for which new tyres have been granted.

Supplement Petrol Rations

Several cases have been brought to the notice of the Government in which supplementary petrol rations, obtained for official business or professional use in a particular area, e.g., Madras City, have been used for long distance journeys to hill stations and other places, and otherwise for purposes different from those for which the supplementary rations were granted. Officials as well as non-officials have been offenders. There have even been cases in which supplementary rations have been obtained for the use of a car in a particular area although the car was not, at the time, kept or used in that area.

The Government desire to make it clear that the use of supplementary rations for a purpose other than that for which they were granted is an offence punishable under the Defence of India Rules. It is also an offence to obtain supplementary rations by misrepresentations.

There appears also to be some misconception in regard to basic rations. These are given to all motorists to cover all uses of their cars but when these are adequate to provide for essential purposes of public importance, supplementary rations are given to supplement the basic ration. It is obviously not permissible to use the supplementary rations and save up basic rations; this implies that there has been misrepresentation and that an excessive supplementary ration has been applied for and granted. Much less is it permissible to obtain supplementary rations and to draw petrol whether on basic or supplementary coupons and store it in tins and hoard it to be used at a much later date on a long journey for which in the ordinary course a supplementary ration would not be sanctioned.

The Government are issuing this note as a warning. They will not hesitate to prosecute offenders in future. If any person has any doubt whether the use of his car for a particular journey would be permissible or not he should consult the Provincial Rationing Officer before hand.

Transport of Green Manure Seeds prohibited

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-rule (2) of rule 81 of the Defence of India Rules, His Excellency the Governor of Madras is hereby pleased to make the following order:—

(1) No person shall transport the green manure seeds mentioned in the schedule below from any place within the limits of the Province of Madras to any place in India outside the said limits except under and in accordance with the terms and conditions of a permit issued by the Director of Agriculture, Madras, or any other officer specially authorized by him in this behalf.

(2) Applications for permits shall be addressed to the Director of Agriculture, Madras, or to such other officer as may be authorized by him in this behalf.

SCHEDULE

LIST OF GREENMENURE SEEDS.

1. Dhaincha (SESBANIA ACULEATA).
2. Indigo (IFDIGOFERA SUMATHRANA).
3. Wild indigo (TEPHROSIA PURPUREA).
4. Sunnhemp (CROTALARIA GUNCEA).
5. Pillipesara (PHASEOLUS TRILOBUS).
6. Theegapesara (PHASEELUS MUNGO UAR RADIATUS).
7. SESBANIA SPECIOSE.

Remission of Dry Assessment in the Chittoor District

In view of the adverse seasonal conditions in parts of the Chittoor district the collection of kists has already been postponed. The Government have now remitted the whole or part of the dry assessment for fasli 1352 in 93 villages in the Madanapalle taluk of the Chittoor district. The remission is on the following scale taking the normal crop to be 12 annas:—

Seventeen villages with outturn of 4 annas and below but above 2 annas—75 per cent.

Seventy-six villages with an outturn of 2 annas and less—100 per cent.

The cost of these remissions is estimated at Rs. 75,342.

The concessions on the scales referred to above apply also to—

(*a*) unobjectionable cases of sivaijama cultivation,

(*b*) tank-bed lands (dry) and dry lands assessed at special rates under paragraph 5 (1) of Board's Standing Order No. 14,

(*c*) lands assigned temporarily,

(*d*) minor inam lands whose quit-rent or jodi is equal to or more than the full assessment,

(*e*) minor inam wet lands subject to the conditions applicable to ryotwari wet lands, and

(*f*) minor inam lands whose quit-rent or jodi is less than the full assessment,

subject to the condition that in the case of the lands mentioned in item (*f*) above a remission of so much of the excess quit-rent or jodi as is above 25 per cent of the dry assessment should be sanctioned in the case of lands with an outturn of above 2 annas but below 4 annas and remission of the entire quit-rent or jodi should be sanctioned in the case of lands with an outturn of 2 annas and below.

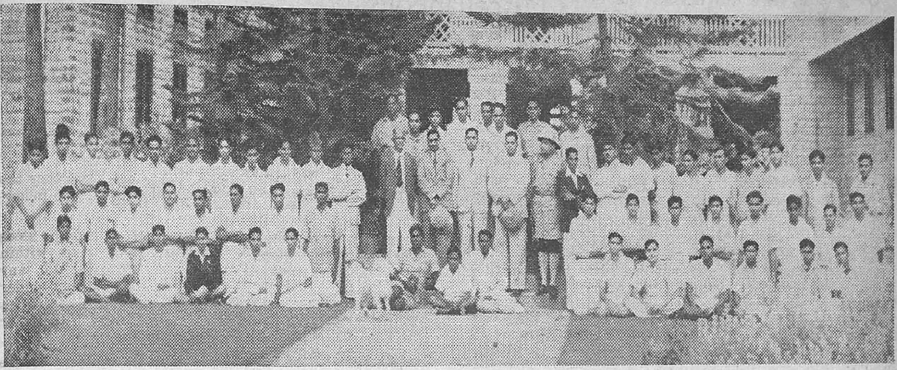
The Government have also directed that the collection of loan instalments in all the villages covered by the remission proposals may be postponed.

The Government have also directed that in villages in which remission of revenue is granted in accordance with these orders, the collection of the unremitted revenue should be postponed to fasli 1353.

Experiments at Engineering College

In the Press Note No. 276, dated 29th December 1942, the Government explained the results of tests, carried out at the College of Engineering, Guindy, on the use of groundnut oil on a Lister 12·5 h.p. 1,000 r.p.m. high-speed diesel oil engine. It was also stated that tests on a low-speed engine were progressing but not completed owing to a defect in the engine employed. A new Hindustan Cooper low-speed engine has since been received for carrying out the tests.

Meanwhile, experiments were carried out at the College of Engineering, Guindy, on running Diesel oil engines with the combination of producer gas from charcoal and groundnut oil. Groundnut oil by itself is very



N. W. F. STUDENTS' CAMP AT VELLORE.—A students' camp was held at College Hill, Vellore, North Arcot district, from June 1 to 15. Photo was taken on the occasion of the visit of Rao Bahadur J. C. Ryan, Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies, to the camp on June 9.

expensive and, by using it in combination with charcoal gas from a standard producer used with buses, there was a saving of 46 per cent in groundnut oil. This producer was, however, too big for the engine and with a smaller producer and better arrangement for controlling the supply of gas, there was a saving of 70 per cent in ground-nut oil. This investigation is far more important than the running of Diesel oil engines on ground-nut oil alone.

Vegetable Oils

Experiments conducted in a big factory running 22 hours a day on the possibilities of securing economy in the use of mineral lubricants by replacing them wholly or partly by suitable vegetable oils without loss of efficiency have given very encouraging results. For a period of six months various types of machine tools, shafting and other machinery were successfully lubricated with vegetable oils without any overheating of bearings, forming of sludge or excessive wearing. The factory was using formerly 95 per cent mineral oil and 5 per cent vegetable oil but now it uses 40 per cent mineral oil and 60 per cent vegetable oil. Further investigation is proceeding. Details in regard to the types of moving parts for which castor and rape oils have proved suitable may be obtained from the Director of Industries and Commerce, Madras.

Hand Rice Huller

The Government have sanctioned an expenditure of Rs. 1,330 for the supply of a model wooden-hand rice huller at a cost not exceeding Rs. 6 per huller to each of the 221 taluk agricultural depots in the Presidency for exhibition and propaganda in connexion with the measures for the undermilling of rice.

Shortage of Motor-car tyres

The attention of the Madras Government has been drawn to a recent leading article in one of the Madras dailies and they wish to correct statements made therein.

The article in question appears to imply that in some way the Madras Government are responsible for the fact that there is a shortage of motor-car tyres. The control of tyres is naturally in the hands of the Government of India who have allotted a quota to this Province for civil motor vehicles. There is a shortage and it follows that as there are not enough tyres to go round, a certain number of vehicles must cease to operate for want of tyres. In the circumstances it is necessary to ensure that the most essential services are continued and there has consequently been a classification of all bus routes according to their essentiality. Tyres must be supplied for the more essential services while those on the least essential services must naturally go without. It is not true to say that this is more than half the vehicles available for the public. Out of about 3,300 buses operating at the beginning of this year about 480 have gone off the roads for want of tyres but it is hoped that arrangements can shortly be made to bring back the bulk of those vehicles as lorries for construction work of great urgency and essentiality.

In such circumstances arising from the war it is unavoidable that a certain number of individuals shall suffer but the criterion must be essentiality of the services being rendered and not the wealth of the operator. There is no mistaken notion that all engaged in the motor transport industry are rich people and in fact one of the difficulties of bus traffic has always been the fact that there is a number of small operators working individually with inadequate capital.

All the transport services in the districts benefit those districts to a greater or lesser extent and all are useful to the public, but it is quite inaccurate to say that the majority of these have been reduced to one-fifth of their former size. As already observed the total reduction in the Presidency is far less than this.

It is idle to compare conditions in this Presidency with those in Great Britain. Indeed a very large number of people have had to give up using their motor cars altogether. Nor is it a fact that authority in this Presidency is unsympathetic towards motor transport. The fact is that the Government have constantly striven to ensure that the meagre supplies of petrol and tyres available are being used in a manner most beneficial to the public as a whole.

Rural Reconstruction

The District Periodical Conference met in all the districts except Kistna during the quarter ending 31st March 1943 and discussed matters relating to the welfare of the rural population. The Government of India grant for rural development together with the local contribution was spent as usual on approved categories of schemes. A brief account of the rural reconstruction work carried out during the quarter is given below:—

Rural water-supply.—Fifty-five new wells were constructed. Thirty-seven wells were under construction at the end of the quarter. A sum of Rs. 22,302-13-2 was spent under this head during the quarter. Almost all the bore-wells in the Tinnevelly district have been taken over by the Revenue department for maintenance. The district board mechanics who have been appointed to attend to the repairs to bore-well works are working under the Tahsildars.

Rural sanitation.—One latrine was constructed and three other sanitary works were completed while the construction of one latrine was in progress in Kistna district. An expenditure of Rs. 2,337-0-5 was incurred under this head during the quarter.

A grant of Rs. 10,000 has been made for the construction of septic tank latrines on a contributory basis in selected villages of the Salem district in 1943–44.

Village communications.—Twenty roads were formed; nine were improved and repaired. Seven bridges and one culvert were constructed. The construction of 12 new roads and two bridges, and one culvert was in progress. The work on 26 roads costing about Rs. 3,130 was executed by village sanghams in the Salem district on a contract basis and that in 18 roads costing Rs. 3,191 on half grant basis. The expenditure incurred under this head was Rs. 28,927-7-7.

Encouragement and development of loan and sale societies.—Five new co-operative stores were registered during the quarter in South Arcot district, thus making up a total of 30 societies. Nine weavers' co-operative societies in the district produced goods to the value of Rs. 61,887. There are in the district four milk supply societies, a cottage industries society and a poultry farming society, which are all working satisfactorily.

A wholesale co-operative store for the supply of food-stuffs has been started at Kurnool and is functioning well.

The Salem Milk Supply Union brought 33,605 measures of milk and sold 32,362 measures as milk and the balance as milk products. The Union provides regular employment for 65 persons.

The Krishnagiri Egg Producing Society did good work during the quarter.

The Metal Workers' Co-operative Society at Nachiarkoil in the Tanjore district sold goods of the value of Rs. 1,347. A leather workers' co-operative society has been formed at Kumbakonam. The Tirukkattupalli Co-operative Apiary, Ltd., has supplied hives to 43 villages and its bee-messenger visited 33 villages and gave instructions about the upkeep of hives and extraction of honey. A mat weavers' co-operative society is working at Sikkil. The Tanjore Milk Supply Union distributed 48,672 Madras measures of milk. The Milk Supply Societies at Kumbakonam and Mannargudi and the Tanjore Milk Supply Union continued to function.

Emporiums.—The District Museum, Cuddapah, continued to attract the public. The Municipal Council, Cuddapah, is contributing Rs. 5 per mensem for its upkeep.

About 25 persons are visiting the museum at Cuddalore every day. The annual subscription for a member has been reduced from Rs. 4 to Rs. 2. A sum of Rs. 75 has been sanctioned towards an agricultural and industrial exhibition at Tiruppappuliyur.

The Commercial Emporium at Kurnool functioned satisfactorily.

During the quarter 5,758 people visited the Salem Industrial and Commercial Museum which has 8,760 exhibits. Finished products of the value of Rs. 11,577 were sold by the Museum which earned a commission of Rs. 385-7-0 on the sales. Goods of the value of Rs. 25,487 were sold during the quarter by the Salem Emporium of the Provincial Co-operative Weavers' Society.

The average attendance at the Commercial Emporium at Calicut was 48, at Rajahmundry 50 and at Mangalore 59 per day.

Cottage industries.—There are three bee-keepers' associations in the Salem district. There are about 150 hives in Namakkal taluk and about 300 in Tiruchengode taluk. A small number of hives has been recently introduced in the other taluk.

Medical relief.—First aid centres are working in 6 villages in the Salem district where 996 persons were treated during the quarter. Seventy-three animals were treated at the Veterinary first aid centre at Mallasamudram.

Land colonization.—The land colonization societies at Salem continued to work satisfactorily. 311 houses have been constructed and an equal number of families settled. 371 plots have been assigned and 1,782 acres of land reclaimed and brought under cultivation. 31 members of the colony have been given licences for tapping sweet juice for the manufacture of jaggery.

Improvement of livestock.—The Anchetty Cattle Breeding Society in the Salem district has 10 breeding bulls of which 9 are serviceable. They performed 154 services. 127 calves were born during the quarter.

Agricultural improvement.—The Grow More Green Manure week was celebrated in the Tinnevelly district between 10 and 16th March 1943.

The manure Preservation Week was obsereed in the Nellore district in January 1943.

Education and propaganda.—Forty-one night schools have so far been opened in the Salem district. The reading circles organized by the village sanghams are giving publicity to correct war news.

Village improvement.—The village sanghams continue to do useful work in the Salem district. 164 villages have been selected by one hundred and sixty officers of the various departments and attempts are being made to bring about improvements in regard to (1) protected water wells, (2) public latrines, (3) thrift deposit system, (4) scavenging arrangements, (5) night schools, (6) establishment of bee-hives and (7) improvement of village communication. Thirty disputes were settled. Seven drains and twenty-one cesspools have been constructed or repaired, septic tank latrines have been provided, rubbish heaps have been removed outside the village and arrangements have been made for the proper collection, preservation and utilization of manure. Two thousand and nineteen insanitary pits were closed. A night-school building is under construction in Muthuganapalle village. Thrift deposits to the value of Rs. 29,850 were collected during the quarter. Games and other amusements were conducted on 3,760 occasions in various villages.

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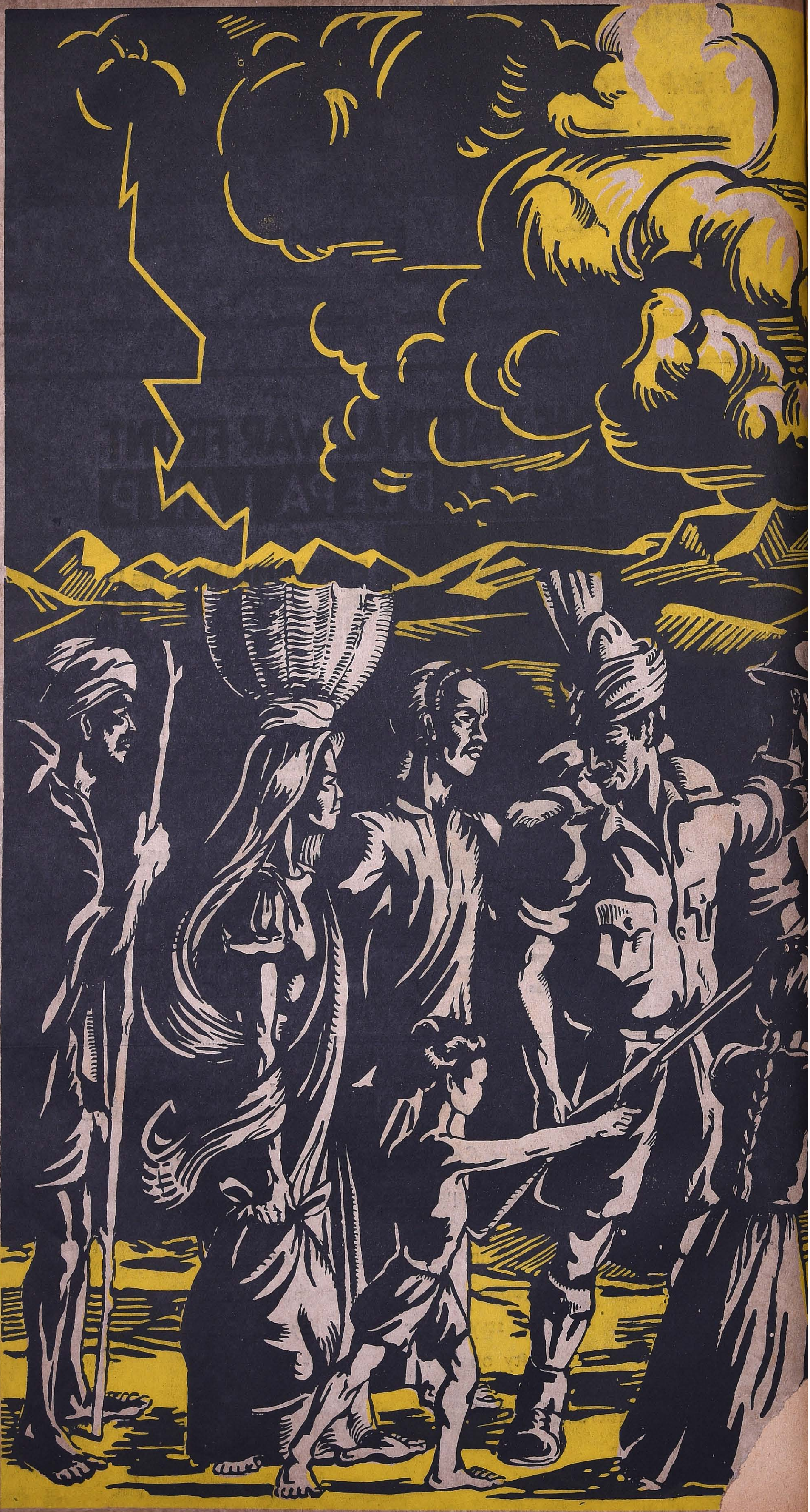
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